

PART 5.  
OF  
Biographical  
HISTORY  
OF Eminent AND  
SELF-MADE MEN  
OF THE  
STATE OF  
MICHIGAN.





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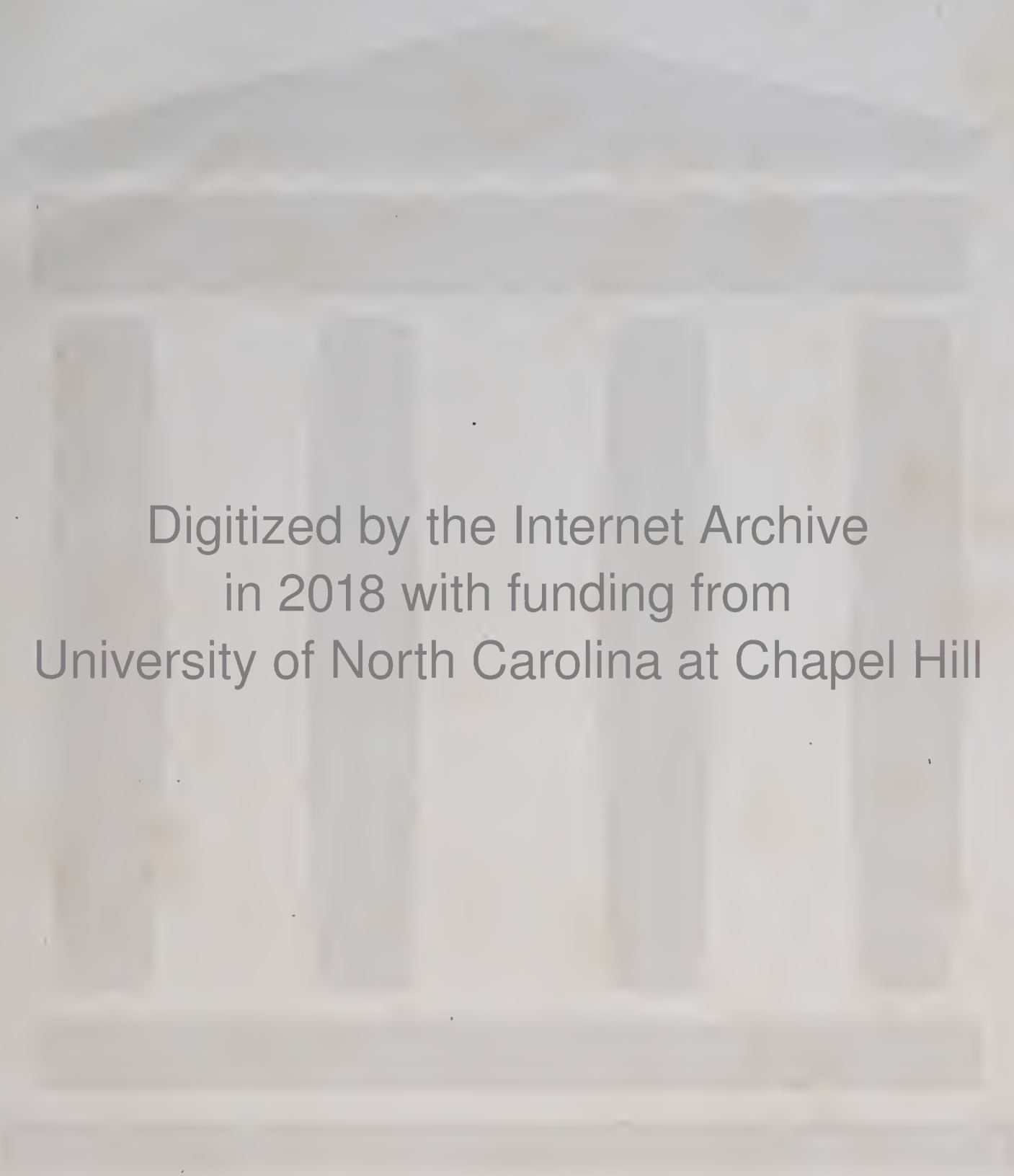
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**AMERICAN  
BIOGRAPHICAL  
HISTORY**

OF  
**EMINENT AND SELF-MADE  
MEN,**

WITH  
PORTRAIT ILLUSTRATIONS ON STEEL.

— **MICHIGAN VOLUME.** —

**WESTERN BIOGRAPHICAL PUBLISHING CO.  
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## THE FIFTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT.

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**A**KELEY, HEALY CADY, Lawyer, of Grand Haven, was born in Stowe, Lamoille County, Vermont, March 16, 1836, and was the son of George and Eluta Akeley. After receiving an elementary education in the common schools of Stowe, he was carefully instructed in the ancient languages and mathematics in the academy at Barre, Vermont. In the latter he was especially proficient, surpassing all his competitors. He then commenced the study of law in the office of the firm of Dillingham & Durant, at Waterbury, Vermont, and carried on a thorough course of reading at the law school at Poughkeepsie, New York. In the winter of the following year, he began practice in Greensborough, Vermont. Becoming dissatisfied with the locality, he removed to Michigan; in the fall of 1858, and practiced his profession in the city of Grand Haven, where he stands high at the bar, and has an extensive business. He was elected Justice of the Peace and Circuit Court Commissioner, and held the offices two years. In 1861 he was appointed Deputy Collector of Customs. In October, 1863, he enlisted in the 2d Michigan Cavalry, which had already performed two years' gallant fighting. He joined the regiment soon after; and, in March, 1865, was appointed Adjutant. He was promoted to Captain in August, and mustered out in September of the same year. In 1866 he was appointed Collector of Customs for the District of Michigan, the duties of which office he faithfully discharged. In 1872 he entered into partnership with Charles Boyden, and they now have one of the largest shingle manufactories in the world. He is also a silent partner in the firm of Harris Brothers, merchants, in Grand Haven. In June, 1859, he was married to Anna Murray, who died in 1868. August 10, 1869, he was married to Henrietta E. Smith. Mr. Akeley early entered upon a religious life. In politics he is a Republican. He is a member of the Masonic Fraternity. He

possesses a clear intellect, and is excellent authority upon fine points of law. He has amassed his present wealth, and obtained a high reputation as a self-made man, by his great industry and upright life.

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**A**LBEE, CLARK B., late of Grand Haven, Michigan, was born at Highgate, Franklin County, Vermont, July 10, 1811. His early educational advantages were limited. As soon as he became of age, he determined to see something of the world, and went to Michigan; where, for a year, he was employed as a teacher. In 1835 he sought more profitable employment, and found a position with Daniel Carver, of Chicago. In 1836 he went to Grand Haven as agent for Mr. Carver in the forwarding and commission business. Two years later, he severed his connection with Mr. Carver, and opened a general store at Grand Haven, which was at that time an Indian trading post. He added, successively, a boot and shoe store, a tannery, a hotel, and a lumber establishment. During the Rebellion, Mr. Albee was appointed Draft Commissioner, and, when heads of families were drafted, was active in helping them to secure substitutes. He was originally a Whig, and, upon the formation of the Republican party, became its earnest supporter. He had a strong sense of right and justice. Party loyalty never blinded him to weakness or fault. Those who held responsible official positions seldom satisfied his high ideal, but he learned to throw the mantle of charity over their errors. In early life he was a charter member of the Independent Order of Odd-Fellows, and filled, successively, all the positions in the subordinate lodge. The multiplicity of his business cares, in later years, induced him to withdraw gradually from active connection with the order. He had a warm heart

for humanity, and was particularly tender of the interests of little children. In his religious views, he was unsectarian. He did not anticipate the near approach of death, but was struck down while pursuing his usual business. He lingered, unconscious, a few hours, and on Friday, January 30, 1874, quietly breathed his last. His death was a loss to the people of Western Michigan. His long residence among them, his large intelligence, his sterling integrity of character, his practical views of the duties of life, and earnestness in their performance, made him a living power, whose removal caused a vacancy that cannot be filled. He was married three times.

**A**NDERSON, GEORGE II., Gun Plain, was born in Montgomery County, New York, October 22, 1827. His father, John, and his mother, Laura Anderson, were natives of the same place. In 1834 they removed to the Territory of Michigan, and settled in Gun Plain, Allegan County. Here Mr. Anderson was chosen Associate Judge, and filled the position for several years. He was Postmaster for eighteen years, and filled many other town offices. The subject of this sketch, Mr. George Anderson, attended the common schools of Gun Plain, the high school at Kalamazoo, and spent several terms at Olivet College, after which he engaged in teaching. In 1852 he was married to Miss Elizabeth Woodhewes, daughter of William II. Woodhewes, founder of the village of Plainwell. In October, of the same year, Mr. Anderson and his wife embarked in the ship "Clipper," at New York, for California. They went by way of Cape Horn, the passage occupying about five months. When rounding the cape, they were struck by a severe gale, which drove the ship south for twenty-eight days; during the latter part of the time, the sun was visible twenty-two hours of each day, enabling the passengers to read by daylight the whole twenty-four hours. They arrived in San Francisco in March, 1853, when Mr. Anderson commenced raising stock on a ranch thirty miles south of the city. He afterwards carried on a dairy camp near the city, which proved very remunerative; as, for several years, he received a dollar a gallon for milk, a dollar a pound for butter, and a dollar a dozen for eggs. In 1859 he returned to Michigan, with his wife and four children, making the trip, by way of the Isthmus, to New York in twenty-two days. In Michigan Mr. Anderson engaged in the mercantile business, increasing his capital until 1866, when he retired. Since that time he has been occupied in the oversight of his farm near the village, and has lived a comparatively retired life. He has been largely identified with the public interests of the town, especially the advancement of education and morality. His son, Edward I., is engaged in the practice of law, and bids fair to make him-

self proficient in that profession. Mr. Anderson joined the society of Odd-Fellows in 1866, and belongs to the Encampment. He contributed largely to the building of the Baptist Church, of which he is a member and liberal supporter. He adheres tenaciously to the principles of the Republican party. Mr. Anderson is genial in manner, and makes strong friends.

**A**NGELL, WILLIAM N., of Tallmadge, Ottawa County, Michigan, was born December 16, 1825, at Chazy, Clinton County, New York. His father's ancestry were early settlers in Providence, Rhode Island. His father, a native of Champlain, settled in Chazy when the country was new. In 1835 he removed to Portage County, Ohio. Mr. Angell received a common-school education, and spent two years at an academy at Twinsburgh, Ohio, kept by Rev. Samuel Bissell. In 1843 he went to Tallmadge, Ottawa County, Michigan, where he had been preceded by his father's family, and was engaged in teaching, and clearing a new timber-land farm. In November, 1848, he was elected to the office of Register of Deeds of Ottawa County, and was twice re-elected. In 1851 he assisted John Barns in starting the first English newspaper published in that county, becoming assistant editor and part proprietor of that journal. He has voted with the Democratic party since 1848, and has held the office of Justice of the Peace in the city of Grand Haven most of the time since 1867. He joined the Odd-Fellows in 1851; has repeatedly filled the highest offices, and has several times represented his lodge in the grand body of the State. He was educated a Methodist, but is now a member of the Episcopal Church. Mr. Angell married, June 26, 1853, Ann M. Evarts, of Grand Rapids. They have four children.

**B**AILEY, SLUMAN S., Grand Rapids, was born in Niagara County, New York, December 14, 1821. His father, Joseph S. Bailey, and his mother, Sophia Dennison, were married in 1819. They emigrated from Rutland, Vermont, and were among the pioneer settlers of Western New York. Their family consists of nine children,—three daughters and six sons,—of which the subject of this sketch is the eldest. He attended the district school until nineteen years of age, when he entered Yates Academy, and remained two years, preparing for college. About this time his health compelled him to relinquish study, and seek some out-of-door employment. He accordingly worked on his father's farm for two years, during which time (on the 30th of October, 1844), he was married to Miss Delia G. Starbuck, daughter of







*John Ball*



Isaac and Rebecca Starbuck, who were well known in Western New York as prominent members of the Society of Friends. In October, 1846, Mr. Bailey started West with his family, taking a team, and covered wagon containing such goods as were necessary. They traveled from Buffalo to Detroit by water, making the remainder of the journey by wagon, until they arrived at Paris, Michigan. Mr. Bailey purchased one hundred and twenty acres of wild land, heavily timbered, and at once commenced the building of a house, into which he moved before the roof was finished. He cleared ninety acres of his land, and was soon comfortably settled on as nice a farm as any in the neighborhood. Here he lived fourteen years, making various improvements on the place. In the fall of 1860 he was elected Sheriff of Kent County, and removed to Grand Rapids, leaving his farm under the management of a competent overseer. He served in this capacity for two years, when, his term of office expiring, he was re-elected. The law provides that no man shall hold the office of Sheriff for more than two terms consecutively, and Mr. Bailey acted as Revenue Inspector for two years, at the end of which time he was again elected Sheriff. During this term, he was, without his knowledge, appointed, by President Johnson, Collector of Internal Revenue for the Fourth District of Michigan. After the inauguration of President Grant, he was re-appointed to the same position. Mr. Bailey has performed the duties of this office, which he has held for ten years, with entire satisfaction to the public. Before his removal to Grand Rapids, he acted as School Inspector for several years; Justice of the Peace four years, and Supervisor for seven years. He was one of the founders of the Kent County Agricultural Society, of which he was President one year, and Secretary several years. He was also a member of the Executive Committee of the State Agricultural Society for six years. Mr. Bailey has a family of three children, two daughters and one son; his youngest son, Charles W., having died in August, 1867. The eldest son, Herman S., married Miss Della Waterman, of Grand Rapids, and has been Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue for three years. His two daughters, Alice S. and Clara B., are living at home. Mr. and Mrs. Bailey were mainly instrumental in organizing and sustaining a Congregational Church in Paris, Michigan; and, with their two daughters, are active workers in the Congregational Church at Grand Rapids. Mr. Bailey has always taken a great interest in temperance, religion and political matters. As a Christian gentleman, he has gained the esteem of all who know him. As Sheriff of Kent County, he was very successful, having peculiar faculties for bringing criminals to justice, convicting them when nearly all present were confident they were innocent. Numerous incidents could be related of this peculiar power and its success, which, if properly written, would compose a volume. But few men possess those faculties which make a uniformly successful civil

officer; and the subject of this sketch is truly remarkable as one of the most successful, without having at any time sacrificed his own sense of morality and self-respect. Mr. Bailey is still largely engaged in agriculture on his farms near the city; and, while devoting his attention daily to the business of his Government office, regards it as but a part of his life-labor.

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**B**ALL, JOHN, Lawyer, Grand Rapids, is a native of Hebron, Grafton County, New Hampshire, where he was born on the 12th day of November, 1794. His father, Nathaniel Ball, and mother, Sarah Nevins, were born at Hollis, New Hampshire; his mother being a daughter of Thomas Nevins, of Hanover, New Hampshire. Mr. Ball, at the age of seventeen, having been deprived up to that time of any but the most rudimental education, left home; and, by the most energetic exertions and self-denial, pursued his academic studies at Salisbury, and elsewhere in New Hampshire. By teaching school a portion of the year to defray his expenses, he was enabled to enter Dartmouth College, where he graduated in 1820. Immediately afterward, he went to Lansingburg, New York, and began the study of law in the office of Walbridge & Lansing, teaching school a portion of the time in order to pay his expenses. Here he remained about two years, when, wishing to see more of the world, he went to New York, and sailed for Darien, Georgia. On the way the schooner was overtaken by a severe storm, and stranded on a sand-bar, about four miles from the island of Sappalo, on the Georgian coast. The schooner went to pieces, but with the aid of rafts, and the life-boat of a vessel which had come to the rescue, all on board, with the exception of one person, were saved. Mr. Ball arrived at Darien in a few days, and remained there about five months, teaching school during the time. He then returned to Lansingburg, where he resumed the study of law; and, in 1824, he was admitted to the bar. Subsequently becoming the partner of Walter Raleigh, he entered upon the practice of his profession at Lansingburg. In a year this partnership was dissolved, and he formed another with his old tutor, Jacob C. Lansing, which partnership continued one year, when Mr. Ball, being elected Justice of the Peace, pursued his practice alone. In this office he remained two years, when his brother-in-law, William Powers, having been accidentally burned to death in his oil-cloth factory,—which had just been built at Lansingburg,—Mr. Ball felt constrained to give up his own business and attend to that of his widowed sister, who was left with two young children. He accordingly took charge of the oil-cloth manufacturing business, and carried it on in behalf of his sister so successfully that, at the end of two years and a half, all debts were paid,

and the business was placed in a flourishing condition, in which it still continues, under the name of the widow and her sons. On the 1st of January, 1832, Mr. Ball left Lansingburg with the intention of going in the spring to Oregon, by the overland route. Having spent the winter in New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington, he joined a party at Baltimore, and they traveled westward, reaching the western part of Missouri in May. Here his party, which consisted of twelve men, united with a mountain trading and trapping party, on its way to the Rocky Mountains, the whole company consisting of eighty men, and three hundred horses and mules. They traveled together for about four months, subsisting most of the time on buffalo meat, when Mr. Ball's party separated from the traders, and took a direct route for Fort Walla Walla. Traveling on the Lewis River,—one of the largest branches of the Columbia,—they subsisted entirely on salmon, which constituted the food of the Indians of that country, who cheerfully furnished them with a bountiful supply of their best fish, and treated them with great kindness during their travels through the country. The party, after passing from among the Indians, had to subsist on the meat of their horses, until they reached Fort Walla Walla, six weeks later. Here they left their horses, and took a boat for Fort Van Couver, where Mr. Ball was very kindly received by Dr. McLaughlin, the local Governor of the Hudson Bay Company. During the winter, Mr. Ball taught the first school that had ever been in Oregon. In the spring, he went thirty miles up the Willamette River, to a small farm settlement; where, with the help of his neighbors, he fenced in and cultivated about six acres of wheat and potatoes. Seeing no prospect of the arrival of other settlers, he resolved to return home; and accordingly, in October, 1833, embarked in a ship which was bound for the Sandwich Islands. They stopped a few weeks at San Francisco, which was then an entire wilderness. Upon the very place where the city now stands, Mr. Ball saw a Spaniard lasso a wild bullock. Reaching the Sandwich Islands, he remained three weeks, and took passage on a whaler, bound for New Bedford, Massachusetts. They put in at the Society Islands, and remained there three weeks, arriving at Rio Janeiro the 1st of June, 1834. By this time Mr. Ball had become tired of the slow progress of the whaler; and at this port he secured a passage as captain's clerk on board the armed schooner "Boxer," which was bound for Norfolk, Virginia. The schooner was commanded by Lieutenant, afterwards Admiral Farragut. Mr. Ball reached Lansingburg, after an absence of two years and a half of adventures. At Troy, New York, he formed a law partnership with Mr. Wilson, which continued for one year. In 1837 he came to Grand Rapids, where he has since resided; here he entered into land speculations. Soon after, he was appointed by the Governor, to select, for the State, the

lands which had been granted by the General Government. From his knowledge of the Government lands, and the reliance that was placed on his judgment and honesty, he greatly contributed to a speedy settlement of these lands by an intelligent class of Eastern people. At Grand Rapids he opened a law office, with S. L. Withey, now Judge of the United States District Court. This business relation lasted for eight years, during two of which Judge George Martin was a partner in the firm. At the end of this time, Mr. Ball entered into partnership with J. H. McKee, a connection that still exists. In 1871, Mr. Ball went to Europe, with his family, remaining two years and a half, one year of the time being spent in Switzerland. He has always acted with the Democratic party, but is not a strong partisan. During the early portion of his residence in Grand Rapids, he was elected Representative to the State Legislature. He has always been a strenuous advocate for the thorough education of the people; for more than twenty years he has been one of the Trustees of the School Board of the city. On the 31st of December, 1849, Mr. Ball married Mary T., daughter of Arthur L. Webster, of Plymouth, New Hampshire, one of the leading men in the county where he lived. Mr. Ball has five children. For his many virtues he is greatly loved, and for his industry and honesty, he is highly esteemed by the entire community in which he resides.

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**B**ARTOW, HERVEY, Portland, Lawyer and Real Estate Operator, was born in Freetown, Cortland County, New York, March 31, 1813. His parents were William and Grace Bartow. His father was born in Rutland County, Vermont, in 1782. When a young man, he came to Cortland County, New York, and was married, May 15, 1808. He was a member of the New York Assembly in 1824. In 1825 he moved to Michigan, and settled in the woods twenty-one miles west from Detroit, where was afterwards organized the town of Plymouth. He was elected to the Territorial Council in 1831, when General Lewis Cass was Governor. Hervey Bartow was twelve years old when his father removed to Michigan. With the exception of six weeks in a neighboring school, he obtained all his subsequent education by studying at night, after severe labor through the day. During the first fourteen years of his life, his health was feeble; and, feeling the importance of a good constitution, he resolved, if possible, by careful industry, to establish his health on a firm basis. This he accomplished. His next ambition was to secure an education, as above stated. In April, 1836, having obtained a few hundred dollars by jobbing in clearing land, and other hard labor, he started for the West. He traveled on foot through the wilderness, camping out at night; following





Eng<sup>d</sup> by E. Wilmer A.B. N.Y.

*H. Bastow*





Indian trails and section lines to and up Grand River, by the way of the mouth of the Looking-glass River, the country along which was then unsettled, but has since been organized into a city known as Portland. Thence he went through the wilderness to the Kalamazoo United States Land Office, where he located some Government land; and finally, in the fall of 1836, settled, with several of his friends, in Ionia County, near where the town of Lyons now stands. Here he farmed until the fall of 1840, when he went to Lyons, and commenced the study of law as a pastime, still looking after his farming interests. In the winter of 1846, having become unable to perform manual labor, he went to Portland, in said county, and gave his whole attention to law studies. He was admitted to practice in the several courts of the State in May, 1846, and immediately opened a law office at Portland, securing the confidence of the public, which he never forfeited. His talents as a lawyer are rather solid than brilliant; but his integrity, never impeached, gave him all the legal business in this section. As the official Prosecutor of the county, which he was in the years 1855-56, he secured conviction in every case involving guilt. From his knowledge of common and statute law, his services have been sought and secured, if practicable, since his retirement, in the settlement of estates and otherwise, and have been appreciated by his fellow-citizens. In response to their desire, he has occupied honorably the highest offices in his township, until, from multiplicity of personal interests, he has felt it his duty to decline every official position. His personal characteristics are well adapted to his profession. Slow to form an opinion, except on the presentation of evidence, he seldom changes his views when once adopted. After a few years, however, owing to the small amount of law business in the new country, he gave up practicing, and attended to real estate and various other transactions, with a short term in the mercantile business. In the fall of 1870, he was elected Circuit Court Commissioner for Ionia County; but having given up the practice of law, declined to act. He served six years on the Board of Trustees,—with special reference to establishing by-laws, precedents, rules, etc.—in the beginning, under the village charter of Portland. Mr. Bartow is very desirous for the improvement of the locality in which he lives; and, at an early day, believing that by building a dam on Grand River and racing the whole length of his land, a fine water-power could be obtained, he offered the free use of his property to any one who would make such improvement. This generous offer, owing to jealousies arising from interests in the two sides of the river, was not accepted; and he feels that its rejection has been very prejudicial to the growth of the place. In the summer of 1866, he was appointed to confer with the late Hon. James Turner, of Lansing, concerning the practicability of procuring a railroad

through Portland, on a line from Lansing to Ionia. A company was formed, of which Mr. Bartow was chosen a Director. He took an active part in getting stock and in securing the right of way. Soon after there seemed to be a falling off of zeal on some parts of the line. Mr. Bartow immediately opened a correspondence with Hon. C. C. Elsworth, of Greenville; Hon. A. L. Green, of Olivet, and George Ingersoll, of Marshall, with a view to construct a railroad from Marshall, through Portland, to Greenville. A survey was made to Greenville, and also through Lyons and Muir. A company was formed, in which H. Bartow was also a Director. This aroused the jealousy of the Ionia citizens, and people on other parts of the line of the Ionia and Lansing road; and in the fall of 1869, their road was pushed in earnest to Greenville. Thus one railroad was secured for Portland. The other—the Coldwater, Marshall and Mackinaw Railroad—owing greatly to the untiring efforts of Mr. Bartow, notwithstanding much opposition, is in a fair way to be completed. It is graded almost its entire length, as established—from Coldwater, in Branch County, to Elm Hall, in Gratiot County—one hundred and twenty miles. Mr. Bartow belongs to the society of Free and Accepted Masons, and has taken the seventh degree. In early life, he thought much of religion, as instilled from Puritan teachings, but could not admit the practicability or adaptability of the theories and creeds as usually taught. He believes eternity commences with each being at its birth; that all things are governed, not by passionate edict, but by fixed laws in all varieties of existing things, whether physical or spiritual, and as adapted to character, as to water running down hill. It may be dammed and diverted, yet the same laws govern and control it; so, in all things, *ad infinitum*; infinite in worlds; infinite in the existences connected with them, in physical and spiritual capacities and characteristics, representing in this an infinite God. In politics Mr. Bartow at first identified himself with the Whig party, and has thrown his influence, for many years, with the Republicans. He would, however, be glad to aid that party which would best secure the unity and strength of the country, and base prosperity upon the broad principle of rights to man, as promulgated in its Declaration of Independence. He has never married.

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**B**ALLARD, REV. JAMES, Grand Rapids, was born at Charlemont, Franklin County, Massachusetts, April 20, 1805. His parents, Captain William Ballard and Elizabeth Whitney Ballard, were natives of Lancaster, Massachusetts, and were married in 1787. They removed to Charlemont in 1788, where they resided during the remainder of their lives. Of the eleven children born to them, the subject of this

sketch is the tenth child. During the first sixteen years of his life, his educational advantages were limited to the district schools. His love of study, however, and religious inclination early indicated to his father the propriety of devoting him to the ministry. When sixteen years old, according to the promise of his father, made two years previous, he entered an academy. After pursuing his studies diligently for two years, he passed a creditable examination, and at once became a student in Williams College, Massachusetts, whence he graduated in 1827. As was usual in those days with students of limited means, Mr. Ballard taught a district school during each winter of his college life. In this occupation he gave such satisfaction that, after graduating, he commenced teaching a high school at Bennington, Vermont, and remained ten years. During this time, of the very many pupils whom he instructed, he prepared nearly forty for college. While thus engaged, Mr. Ballard devoted a portion of his leisure time to theological study, and ventured to preach in destitute settlements. At the termination of his school labors in Bennington, he removed to Troy, New York, entering a theological seminary; after remaining there a few months, he removed to Michigan, and became pastor of the First Congregational Church at Grand Rapids, in which charge he continued ten years. During this time, by his strenuous exertions, a church building, erected for the Roman Catholic service, was purchased. Upon the termination of his pastorate, he accepted the position of Principal of the Union School, which had recently been organized in Grand Rapids, and was the first of its character established in the State. He remained in charge of this school nearly four years. He next undertook a similar work on the opposite side of the river, to which he devoted himself during the next two years. Mr. Ballard then resumed his ministerial labors, being engaged as a missionary among the different Congregational Churches of the Grand River Valley, and continued in the work for nine years. At the expiration of this period, he accepted from the American Sunday School Union an appointment as missionary for that work. During the following five years, he was engaged in visiting, addressing, organizing, and furnishing with books and papers, the Sunday Schools within his territory. This work terminating in 1869, he was appointed by the American Missionary Association to raise, in his State, funds to aid the freedmen. Having successfully accomplished the initiatory work under this appointment, he spent two seasons teaching and preaching among the freedmen,—the first in Mississippi, Georgia and Louisiana, and the second at Indianola, Texas, where his school numbered about one hundred colored children. His labor in this field seriously impaired his health, and it became necessary for him to resign the work. In 1831, Mr. Ballard was married, at Bennington, Vermont, to Miss Emeline

Ilinsdill, a lady educated to the extent of the advantages of the period, and there were born to them three children. The oldest son, having enlisted in the service of his country, in 1862, was captured at Gettysburg, and incarcerated successively in Libby, Macon, Charleston and Columbia prisons; but he survived all hardships, and is now making his record as an attorney and member of the Grand Rapids bar.

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**B**ARNHART, REV. CLINTON L., Muskegon, Michigan, son of Henry W. and Mary Barnhart, was born September 1, 1842, in Chautauqua County, New York. His ancestry were of German and English origin, who conferred upon their descendants that best of all heritages, an honorable name. His father, a man highly respected for integrity, still resides in Schoolcraft, Michigan; he was married early in life to a lady of Connecticut parentage, whose father, grandfather, and brothers, all, in various ways, made their lives benefits to their race,—the great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch having been a Revolutionary hero. Mr. Barnhart pursued a common-school and academic course in his native county; studied Latin and Greek under the tuition of Rev. L. F. Laine, a Presbyterian clergyman and a graduate of Dartmouth. Although he did not enjoy a regular collegiate course, he remedied this deficiency by diligent application, so that, in addition to the ministerial requirements of his denomination, he has read extensively in natural science, *belles-lettres*, metaphysics, Latin, Greek and Hebrew, and is also well informed in current literature. Inheriting from his father earnestness of purpose, and from his mother a deeply conscientious nature, when his early religious teachings became to him a living reality, he, from convictions of duty, gave up his aspirations for fame in the legal profession, and chose the itinerant ministry. As his inclinations were to reading and study, every leisure moment was employed in that way. For some time, Mr. Barnhart taught, hoping to improve his education; but, in 1862, when his country called upon her sons to arm in her defense, the heroic blood inherited from his Revolutionary ancestors was stirred; his books were laid aside, and he enlisted as a private in the army. He rose, by promotion, to be First Lieutenant, and participated in the battles of Chancellorsville, Mission Ridge, Dug Gap, Resaca, Dallas and Lost Mountain; he was taken prisoner at Chancellorsville, and wounded twice. He had charge of the right company of his regiment on the day he received his last wound, which necessitated his honorable discharge from the army, in March, 1865. On retiring from the army, he devoted himself to the work of the itinerant ministry. In 1865 he was taken on



brate 1 Sixth Corps arrived, and raised the siege. In consideration of his services, the Secretary of War, Mr. Stanton, caused a commission to be sent to Mr. Beardsley, making him a Captain in the United States Army (without pay or emolument), which commission has never been revoked. Mr. Seward tendered him a consulate, which was declined. Mr. Beardsley subsequently had command of a post near Washington; and, during those exciting times, had many a skirmish with the Confederates. At the termination of the war, he was made a Special Agent of the United States Post-office Department, and continued in that service until after the election of Grant, when he resigned. He then removed to Muskegon, where he now resides. In 1876 Mr. Beardsley was the Democratic nominee for State Senator in the Twentyninth District. He made a fine canvass; and, though defeated, ran largely ahead of Tilden and the Democratic State ticket. A fine speaker and an earnest advocate for what he deems right; above all, a man of sterling integrity, Mr. Beardsley holds an enviable position in the confidence of his fellow-citizens. During the Senatorial contest alluded to, some of the Republicans became alarmed at the amazing popularity of Beardsley, and the most extravagant means were used to defeat him. Among others, a Hollander, of some influence and respectability, published a card, under oath, declaring that Beardsley was an Irishman and a strict Roman Catholic. This was freely circulated among the large Holland and anti-Catholic population of Ottawa County. No one was more highly entertained by this species of attack than Mr. Beardsley himself; for his keen sense of the ludicrous took in all the absurdity connected with it. He will always be remembered as the "Yankee-Irishman" and "Presbyterian-Catholic." Mr. Beardsley has some reputation as a writer for various periodicals and papers. He wrote the "Pencilings from Nature," so popular years ago, and many other humorous sketches. To poetry he has contributed quite largely. "The Beautiful Soul," "Life Leaves," "A Retrospect," and various other familiar productions, are from his pen.

**B**EIDLER, HENRY, Lumber Merchant, of Chicago, Illinois, formerly of Muskegon, Michigan, was born in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, November 27, 1812. He attended the district schools until he was seventeen years old. At the age of twenty-one, he entered the employ of an uncle, from whom he received one hundred dollars a year and his board. After spending ten years in diligent labor, he started for the West. On his way he stopped at Philadelphia, Harrisburg and Pittsburg, and finally settled in Springfield, Illinois. There he carried on mercantile business

in a small way, engaged in the lumber trade, and kept a grocery and notion store until 1850. During the next four years, he traded in lumber between Springfield and Chicago. In the spring of 1854, in partnership with two brothers and Mr. Hathaway, he commenced the erection of a large saw-mill in Muskegon. In 1855 he and his brother Jacob bought out the other partners, and continued business for some time under the firm name of J. Beidler & Brother. They afterwards formed a copartnership with M. J. Brown and R. P. Easton, which lasted until 1860. At that time Mr. H. Beidler and his brother bought out the other partners, and carried on an enterprising business for ten years. A stock company was then formed, which elected Henry Beidler President. The mill of this company has a capacity for turning out one hundred and fifty thousand feet of lumber and forty thousand feet of laths per day, and produces twenty-five million feet of lumber and six million pieces of lath during the summer season. In 1866 Mr. Beidler was elected Director and Treasurer of the Muskegon Booming Company. On the formation of the Lumbermen's National Bank, he became Vice-President and Director. He has been largely interested in pine land, as well as city property in Chicago and Muskegon.

**B**ROAS, LEVI, Farmer, of Belding, Ionia County, was born in New Paltz, Ulster County, New York, December 31, 1821. His father, Charles Broas, was a native of Long Island, Suffolk County, New York. In 1837 he moved to the town of Otisco, Ionia County, Michigan; and, settling on an uncultivated farm, continued to reside there until his death, which occurred January 1, 1855. His only son, Levi, then took charge of the place, and has since been actively engaged in farming and fruit growing. He makes a specialty of raising fruit and fruit-trees, supplying, largely, the demand of Montcalm, Ionia, and the adjoining counties. He has been one of the most energetic among the originators of the village of Belding. He platted enough of his land to make about two hundred village lots, and gave long leases to all who would erect buildings thereon. His whole business career has been honorable, and he ranks deservedly high among the successful men of his county. He is now among the wealthy men of the thriving village of Belding. He has always been a Republican. He uniformly declines office. In all religious, moral, and benevolent enterprises, he takes a strong, and generally very active, interest. Mr. Broas was married, August 28, 1849, to Miss Ruth Ann Just. They have had five children, all of whom are living.

**B**LANCHARD, JOHN CELSUS, Lawyer, Ionia, Michigan, was born at Mentz, Cayuga County, New York, September 19, 1822. His father, Washington Z. Blanchard, is a leading physician of Lyons, Michigan. His mother, Hannah (Jeffries) Blanchard, was a direct descendant of the celebrated Judge Jeffries, of England. Mr. Blanchard was educated at Temple Hill Academy, at Genesee, New York, and Camuga Institute. His father being unable to provide further for him, he engaged to work in a mill. As soon as he had earned ten dollars, he left home for the Territory of Michigan. Upon arriving at Detroit, which was then a small village, he engaged in work on a farm, at a salary of six dollars per month. At the end of the first month, he received eight dollars, the additional sum being paid him because of his zeal. In the fall of 1836, being then fourteen years of age, he went to Shiawassee County, and did whatever work he could find, until the spring of 1837; when, having accumulated fifty dollars, he started for the Land Office at Ionia, walking the whole distance of sixty miles, through an unbroken wilderness, and sleeping in the woods. Having reached his destination, he sought the Land Office, and paid his fifty silver dollars for forty acres of land. Returning, in the same manner, to Shiawassee County, he remained there until the spring of 1838, when he removed to Ionia County, and engaged to break land for a farmer at Lyons; at twelve dollars a month. This engagement was fulfilled so satisfactorily that he received twenty dollars per month, instead of the sum agreed upon. In the fall of 1838 he engaged as clerk in the store of Giles S. Isham, and remained there one year, devoting his leisure time to study. Having then decided to study law, he entered the office of Roof & Bell, of Lyons, where he remained three years. After passing a creditable examination, in 1842, at the age of twenty, he was admitted to practice. Mr. Roof then proposed a partnership, which Mr. Blanchard accepted, and this business connection continued for three years. Afterwards, until 1850, Mr. Blanchard practiced alone. At that time, having been elected Prosecuting Attorney, he removed to Ionia, and became the partner of Hon. A. F. Bell, under the firm name of Blanchard & Bell, which is to-day a leading law firm of Ionia County. During the Presidency of James Buchanan, Mr. Blanchard was appointed Register of the United States Land Office, and held the position four years. He was also President of Ionia for two terms; he was School Director for nine years; Prosecuting Attorney of Ionia County five years; and a Trustee of Albion College, having liberally contributed to its endowment fund. In 1872 he was the Democratic candidate for Lieutenant-Governor. He is a prominent member of the Democratic party, and has distinguished himself as a speaker in the public support of the Presidential candidates. He is a member of the

Masonic Fraternity, and has filled several of the principal offices of its various bodies. Mr. Blanchard has been a liberal benefactor of every worthy object. Besides his contributions to churches, schools and railroads, he has, during the twenty-five years of his residence in Ionia, given not less than a thousand dollars a year to charitable purposes. He is a regular attendant of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In 1845 he married Miss Harriet A. Brewster, daughter of Frederick Brewster, of Burlington, Vermont. They have four children. As a lawyer, Mr. Blanchard has many qualifications which fit him for successful public life. His opinions are his convictions on all subjects; and, while firmly upholding them, he has the greatest respect for the convictions of those with whom he may differ. As a criminal lawyer, he is acknowledged to be at the head of his profession in Michigan. The innate ability and indomitable perseverance which overcame, in succession, every impediment in his path to success, and placed him in his present position of prosperity and influence, justly entitle him to a place among Michigan's self-made men.

**B**OGUE, WILLIAM W., Merchant, of Portland, Ionia County, was born in Norfolk, St. Lawrence County, New York, December 6, 1826. His parents were both natives of Vermont. His father, Philo Bogue, was born May 11, 1797, and died July 25, 1839. His mother, Eliza (More) Bogue, was born in 1804, and still lives, residing with her daughter, Mrs. Francis G. Lee, in Portland. In 1831 his father removed with his family to Michigan, settling, at first, on a piece of wooded land in Pekin Township, Wayne County. After remaining there two years, he settled permanently in Portland, in November, 1833. At this time the country was an unbroken wilderness, inhabited only by Indians and wild animals of the forest. Portland was but an Indian trading post, the nearest white inhabitant of the country being at Lyons, ten miles distant. Mr. Bogue received his first supplies from the Indians, and built the first log house and the first frame house in Portland. He kept a store in the village until his death, which occurred in 1839. Left without his father before he was thirteen years old, William W. received but meager educational advantages. He attended school at intervals in Portland, and spent one year at a select school in Pontiac. His mother, meanwhile, having sold the store kept by her husband, by her energy and perseverance kept the family together. In the spring of 1849, he entered a general mercantile store in Portland, as clerk, and continued to work in the same capacity in various stores until 1850, when, with his step-father, Larmon Chatfield, he opened a general store. In 1853 Mr. Chatfield retired, and the





John C. Blanchard





place in the firm was taken by Francis G. Lee. Mr. Bogue has been conducting the business alone since 1866, in the store which he has occupied since 1853. As a business man, Mr. Bogue has a reputation second to none, and his store is one of the leading ones in the country. In politics, he was first a Whig, and then a Republican, until 1860, since which time he has worked with the Democratic party. He held the position of Town Clerk three or four terms, and was Postmaster of Portland under Taylor and Fillmore. He has been a member of the Methodist Church since 1865, and is a trustee, class-leader and steward. In November, 1851, he married Miss Martha Milne, a lady of English birth. They have two children,—Florence N., twenty-one years of age, who is the wife of Theron M. Lewis, of Portland, and Norton Bruce, a bright boy of eleven years. Mr. Bogue is a man whose character and standing in the community are of the highest order.

**B**ELL, HON. ALEXANDER F., of Ionia, is among the prominent men of Michigan, whose history is peculiarly his own. He was born August 5, 1812, in Charlton, Saratoga County, New York. His parents, James and Anna Bell, were of Scotch descent. He graduated from Union College, Schenectady, New York, in 1836, and the same year, with his friend, Hon. Adam L. Roof, emigrated to Michigan. In the sketch of Mr. Roof may be found some interesting incidents of their journey from Jackson, down Grand River, to Lyons, where they settled. Mr. Bell became a student in the law office of Mr. Roof; and in 1840, was admitted to the bar as an attorney and counselor at law, and solicitor in chancery in all the courts of the State. In September, 1839, he was married to Miss Elizabeth Boyer, of Portland, Ionia County, a lady of rare talents, goodness of heart and social influence. They have had seven children, two of whom died in infancy. The others are Nellie, who is the wife of Colonel J. B. Yates, a member of the far-famed Yates family of New York; Annie, the wife of F. C. Sibley, Esq., a retired merchant, and one of the most active and useful Aldermen of Ionia, Michigan; Mollie, wife of Mr. J. C. Jennings, a successful farmer of Ionia County; Lizzie, wife of S. B. Gorham, Esq., a gentleman of high standing in Jackson, Michigan; and James, who married Libbie Rose, a member of one of the leading families of Petoskey, Michigan. In 1840 Mr. Bell moved from Lyons to Ionia, where he now resides. A part of the summer of 1847 he lived in Grand Rapids, and during most of the years 1859-60, in Detroit. In 1846 he was elected Representative to the State Legislature, and was one of its most influential members. In the spring of

1853 he was appointed Register of the United States Land Office, located at Ionia, and performed its responsible duties four years. He understood well the theory and practice of surveying, and became, at an early day, one of the principal surveyors of the Grand River Valley. In 1850 Mr. Bell entered into a copartnership with J. C. Blanchard, Esq., a keen trial lawyer, who at that time moved from Lyons to Ionia. The firm of Bell & Blanchard has been in existence most of the time since its first formation, and is now among the leading ones in that section of the State. Mr. Bell is truly an able lawyer. Hon. C. W. Whipple, once one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of Michigan, said of him, that he had one of the best legal minds in the State. Indeed, in the examination of legal questions, as also in the preparation of important cases for trial, he has few equals. In the advocacy of causes before a jury, he has always greatly underrated his own ability, and has, therefore, shrunk from that duty; but in discussing cases before the court, he has had more confidence, and has performed his part with remarkable clearness and ability. As might be expected, he has been employed in his full share of important civil and criminal cases, particularly the former, in his section, never occupying a third place in a cause. He has had no small part in shaping the railroad legislation of the State; and in the leading American and English cases on that subject, he has few peers. In a word, as a lawyer, he possesses substantial elements, as the result of his natural good judgment and thorough study. He is public-spirited above most men, and that in a broad sense; his interests including churches, schools, and reformatory institutions, as well as railways, streets and public buildings. Having lived in Michigan since it first became a State, he has done much toward moulding its laws. He has always been a Democrat in politics. In the campaign of 1848-9, however, he acted with the Free-Soil party as an opponent of slavery. Mr. Bell is a warm, generous, reliable friend, and an equally strong enemy. He is apt to carry his likes and dislikes to the borders of the extreme, and people are never in doubt as to his feelings for them. He is of medium height, and compactly built. He has a large, round head, dark hair and eyes, symmetrical features, and firm, closely-shutting lips. He stands straight and squarely on his feet, moving solidly, and is the embodiment of marked individuality. Once seen, he is rarely forgotten. He possesses, not only great presence and dignity, but a wit as keen and bright as a lancet. His insight almost amounts to intuition, and little transpires touching an object in which he is interested without his knowledge. He is vigilant and untiring, and leaves his impress upon every thing he undertakes. To control is one of the leading elements of his character, and to yield is extremely distasteful. He has wonderful powers of endurance, and taxes them to the utmost. His fame as an able lawyer,

adroit manager, and keen wit, has become national; and there is much in his life, scattered along its entire pathway, which would be of value to the historian, but which the limits of this work unfortunately exclude. He belongs to that class of leaders who strive in all ways to elevate humanity, and it may truly be said that he has acted well his part. If none criticise but those who have done better, in a life equally active and difficult, beginning with a State in its infancy, and progressing with it through more than forty years, the number will be few indeed.

**B**LISS, ZENAS E., M. D., Grand Rapids, was born at Poolville, Madison County, New York, July 4, 1832. He is the son of Obadiah Bliss, of Rehoboth, Massachusetts, who was a man of energy and public spirit. His mother was a woman of deep spiritual faith. Dr. Bliss received his early schooling at Chagrin Falls, Cuyahoga County, Ohio. His father was owner of a large woolen factory; and, availing himself of the opportunity, the son became thoroughly acquainted with the business in all its branches. In 1850 he commenced the study of medicine, receiving private instruction in the office of Drs. Harlan & Bliss, after which he entered the office of his brother, at Ionia, Michigan. He spent three years in study, at the Michigan University, with an interval of several months' practice at Lowell, Kent County. He received his degree of M. D. in 1855, and settled in Ionia, where he remained six years, with the exception of one winter, spent in attending clinical lectures in the hospitals of Philadelphia and New York. In June, 1861, he entered the army as Assistant-Surgeon of the 3d Regiment of Michigan Volunteers. He was commissioned Surgeon of his regiment in October, and from that time, served with it. He was engaged in the siege of Yorktown, the battles of Williamsburg, Fair Oaks, Seven Pines, and the seven days' fight before Richmond, including Malvern Hill. After this campaign, he was promoted, by President Lincoln, to the position of Surgeon of the United States Volunteers, stationed at Baltimore, Maryland. His duties included the furnishing of the United States General Hospital, the temporary charge of invalid officers, and the charge of the National Hotel Hospital, from July, 1863, until December, 1864. He was then appointed Purveyor of the United States Army, stationed at Baltimore. He continued in the discharge of these duties until February 2, 1866, when, his services being no longer needed, he was discharged with the title of Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel. Dr. Bliss spent the winter of 1866-67 in Paris and London, attending clinical lectures. After his return, he engaged in the practice of medicine at Grand Rapids, where he remained until the fall of 1874. His

health being seriously impaired, he then withdrew from his professional labors, and went to Europe. He returned to Grand Rapids in 1875. He was a member of the Grand Rapids Medical and Surgical Society, the American Medical Association, and the American Public Health Association. In August, 1873, he was appointed, by Governor Bagley, a member of the State Board of Health; but resigned this commission soon after, on account of declining health. He was President of the Board of United States Examining Surgeons for a number of years, and an honored member of the Christian Church since 1860. On the 16th of September, 1856, he married Marian Carr, only child of Archibald Carr, of Ionia County, Michigan, and of this union one daughter has been the issue. In the character of Dr. Bliss, the mind and heart are in perfect unison; what his judgment approves, his hand executes. Possessing an enthusiastic love for his profession, and having a mind enriched by long years of constant study, his experience was peculiarly favorable for the development of his powers. After his return to Grand Rapids, he ceased practice, in consequence of his health, which continued to fail rapidly, until, on the 23d of April, 1877, he passed from life, in the forty-fourth year of his age. At a called meeting of the Grand Rapids Medical and Surgical Society, resolutions of the most complimentary character were adopted, a passage from one of which we here insert, as expressive of facts worthy of record:

"By his death the medical profession of this city and State, and especially the Grand Rapids Medical and Surgical Society, lose an eminent and honorable member. He was energetic and enthusiastic in all that pertained to his calling. He was honorable in his intercourse with members of the profession, and ever courteous to all. His skill in the practice of all departments of his vocation, though especially of surgery, has been equalled by few and surpassed by none of his co-workers; and his Christian fortitude and cheerfulness, during his protracted sickness, are eminently worthy of our example. His life was an example of earnestness in the performance of all duties, professional and private, and his death removes one of our most honorable practitioners and upright citizens."

**B**ENNETT, JOHN R., Druggist, Muskegon, Michigan, was born in the town of Lodi, Washtenaw County, Michigan, April 19, 1847, and was the son of John L. and Mary Ann (Borden) Bennett. His parents moved to Grand Rapids when he was eight years of age. After graduating from the High School at Grand Rapids, in 1862, he became clerk in the dry-goods store of James Lyman, where he remained one year. The year following he engaged with the firm of Minck & Withey. He subsequently went to Chicago, and enlisted in the 132d Illinois Infantry, under Colonel Pickett. After







Geo. S. Briggs

Eng'd by H. R. Hall & Sons, 13 Barclay St. N.Y.



returning to Grand Rapids, he engaged in the drug store of C. H. Johnson. Still later, he was employed by the firm of Leonard & Wooster, at Muskegon, and remained with them two years. Removing to Pontiac, he became associated with A. Parker, druggist. In 1869 he went to Charlotte, Michigan, where he carried on a successful drug business for about two years. He then sold out, and removed to Ionia, where he was employed by Taylor & Irish, druggists. In April, 1872, he formed a partnership with H. D. Irish, under the firm name of Irish & Bennett. In 1874 he sold his interest to his partner, and removed to Muskegon, where he was employed by W. A. Sibley, druggist. In 1877 he opened a large drug store in Muskegon, under the firm name of J. R. Bennett & Co. Mr. Bennett is a member of the Masonic Fraternity, and is a Knight Templar. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias, of which he has been elected Chancellor Commander for the third term. He was married, November 2, 1870, to Miss L. A. Ward, of Charlotte, Michigan.

**B**ERKEY, WILLIAM A., Manufacturer of Furniture, Grand Rapids, was born in Perry County, Ohio, on the 12th of April, 1823. He is the son of John Berkey, of Pennsylvania, and Lydia (Reams) Berkey, of Virginia. He attended the common schools of Perry and Seneca counties, and spent one year in study at Norwalk, Ohio, after which he engaged in teaching. In the fall of 1844 he commenced to learn the carpenter and joiner trade, and for a number of years continued in that business. In 1848 he removed to Tiffin, Ohio, where he engaged in the manufacture of doors and sashes, remaining there seven years. He then removed to Grand Rapids, Michigan, and engaged in the same business. Soon afterward, he entered into partnership with Elias Matter and Julius Berkey, his brother, and established the foundation of the wholesale furniture business at present engrossing much capital, and employing more than a thousand men in that city. This partnership was changed, in 1868, by Elias Matter's going out, and George W. Gay's coming in. Subsequently, the manufacture of furniture was carried on five years under the firm name of Berkey Brothers & Gay. In 1873, Mr. Berkey, the subject of this sketch, sold out his interest to his partners for \$80,000. In 1870 he, in connection with other parties, originated the Phoenix Furniture Company, when he was elected President. He still holds that position. This company carries a capital of about \$500,000; employs about four hundred men; and, with facilities for manufacturing said to be unsurpassed, their work ranks with anything of the kind done in the United States. In politics Mr. Berkey was a Republican until 1876, when he was, by the Greenback, or Peter Cooper party, of Michigan, nominated for the State Legislature. He has been

a member of the Methodist Church since boyhood. In 1848 he married Miss Mary, daughter of Peter Springer, of Seneca County, Ohio. The problem, to the solving of which Mr. Berkey has devoted much thought within the past ten years, is the difficult question of national finance as the basis of national prosperity. He has, within that period, published a work of nearly four hundred pages devoted to that subject, which has elicited testimonials of high approval from men of much ability. The problem which he undertakes to solve in this work, is one of surpassing interest, and worthy of the best thought of every employer of large numbers of artisans, mechanics, and other workingmen,—involving, as it does, the living, happiness, and prosperity of those men who compose the bone and sinew of the nation.

**B**RIGGS, COLONEL GEORGE G., late of the 7th Regiment of Michigan Cavalry, and at present Treasurer of the Barrel, Rim and Bent-ware Manufacturing Company, Grand Rapids, Michigan, was born in Wayne County, Michigan, on the 25th of January, 1838. When but a little child, his father, a merchant, died; and while yet a youth, the son entered a mercantile house at Battle Creek, where he remained three years, and subsequently attended, for a short time, Olivet College. He then removed to Galesburg, Illinois, where he remained five years, and returning to Battle Creek, entered into partnership with Mr. Averill, and conducted a mercantile business, under the firm name of Averill, Briggs & Co. When, in 1862, it became apparent to him that his country required his service, he disposed of his business interests, and devoted himself to raising a company of cavalry, of which he was appointed First Lieutenant. This company, when equipped for service, became a part of the 7th Regiment of Michigan Cavalry, which left Grand Rapids for the Army of the Potomac, under the command of Colonel W. D. Mann. Before leaving with his regiment for the Potomac, Lieutenant Briggs made a parting visit to his friends at Galesburg; and was, by the citizens of that town, presented with a sword, as a token of their high esteem. He served with his regiment in the Army of the Potomac during the war; that regiment forming a part of the famous Michigan Cavalry Brigade, which, under the command of the daring and lamented Custer, fought and distinguished itself in sixty-three battles. The subject of our sketch soon became famous for his gallantry and courage, and promotion followed from grade to grade, until, in 1864, he became Colonel of his regiment. His service in the field was distinguished by that devotion to his country which finds appropriate expression in the cheerful performance of every duty. His regiment was,

successively, under the command of Generals Custer, Kilpatrick, Merritt, and the present Lieutenant-General of the United States Army. In a series of brilliant operations under Sheridan, throughout the six days immediately preceding the surrender of Lee, Colonel Briggs had three horses shot under him, but miraculously escaped injury. He was so often upon the line, and so frequently exposed, that, at the close of the severe fight on the 8th of April, 1865, he was made the recipient of the general congratulations of his brother officers upon his safe return. In attestation of his gallantry, a recommendation that he be brevetted for gallant conduct, was signed by Colonel Stagg, who commanded the brigade; by General Deven, commanding the division; by General Merritt, commanding the corps; and by General Sheridan, commanding the left wing of the army. On the morning of the 9th, the position obtained by Colonel Briggs enabled him to be the first officer to recognize the bearers of the flag of truce which so suddenly terminated the four years' war. He accompanied the bearers to General Custer, the nearest general officer, who directed his chief-of-staff and Colonel Briggs to return with the bearers and his message to Lee's head-quarters. There Colonel Briggs made the acquaintance of General Longstreet, and other distinguished men, with whom a cessation of hostilities was agreed upon until four o'clock in the afternoon, at which time the surrender of the Confederate Army was announced throughout the Union Army, amid an excitement that words fail to portray. But with that surrender, which brought peace to the nation, the services of the 7th Michigan Cavalry were not dispensed with by the Government. That regiment, a few days afterward, was assigned for duty on the western frontier; and there,—under its gallant Colonel, George G. Briggs, who was placed in command of all the cavalry forces in the South sub-district of the Plains, with his head-quarters at Fort Collins, about seventy-five miles from Denver, Colorado,—served faithfully, guarding valuable and heavily-freighted stage-lines and trains, and protecting the residents of the frontier. In October, 1865, Colonel Briggs marched a part of his command over the mountains to Salt Lake City; and, having taken command of the cavalry forces at Fort Douglas, remained there until he was mustered out of service. He returned to the East by San Francisco and Panama, arriving at New York after a three weeks' voyage from Aspinwall. Being advised by letter, on his arrival at Detroit, he called on the jewelry firm of M. S. Smith & Co., where he was, by the officers of his regiment, presented with a beautiful gold watch, and their best wishes that in his future peaceful pursuits he should be no less successful than he had been while their immediate commander in the war. In May, 1866, Colonel Briggs removed to Grand Rapids, and, in partnership with J. W. Peirce, engaged in the dry-goods business, under the firm name

of Peirce & Briggs. From this business he withdrew in 1870, and engaged in manufacturing, as a stockholder and Treasurer of the Michigan Barrel, Rim and Bentware Manufacturing Company, to which he has since devoted his time. This business, through his close attention to it, has prospered, and now gives employment to about three hundred men. In May, 1866, Colonel Briggs married Miss Julia R. Peirce, youngest daughter of his partner in business at that time. Mr. Peirce, since deceased, was one of the early settlers of the Grand River Valley. In politics, Colonel Briggs has been active. In the campaign of 1868, he was a delegate to the National Convention at Chicago that nominated Grant and Colfax. He was appointed one of the Secretaries; and, as an officer of the convention, was one of the committee that went to Washington to notify General Grant of his nomination. During the campaign he took a leading part in all Republican demonstrations at Grand Rapids. He was chosen commander of the Tanners' organization of that city; and being nominated as Representative of the First District of Grand Rapids to the Legislature of Michigan, he was elected by a large majority. After serving the two years of his term, he decided to withdraw from politics, and devote himself entirely to his business. Although since urgently solicited to accept nominations, he has declined to do so. Colonel Briggs is, in an eminent degree, one of Michigan's self-made men. He began his career an orphan youth, dependent entirely upon himself; and, by the time he had attained his majority, was a man of established character, positive in opinion, direct in speech, and careful and conservative in his business arrangements. At the call of his country, he sacrificed his business interests without hesitation, and engaged in that service, in which he achieved a success of which any man might be proud. He has attained, since the close of the war, by strict application to business, wealth and influence among his fellow-citizens, whose confidence he enjoys, no less for upright dealing than for his courteous, gentlemanly bearing.

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**B**OOOTH, EPHRAIM J., of Lowell, Kent County, was born at Palmyra, New York, May 17, 1818, and was the only son of a family of four children. His father, William Booth, was a carpenter and joiner by trade. His mother, Susanna (Briggs) Booth, died when he was only five years old. His father was in poor circumstances, and Ephraim attended the common schools at different places where he worked until he reached the age of fifteen, being principally employed, until he was nineteen, in farm work. He then made a short trip to Ohio, from which he soon returned to Rochester, New York, where the greater part of the



next two years was spent, alternately, as clerk in a grocery store, peddler, and manufacturer of confectionery. He went to Michigan in 1844, and bought land in Osceola Township, Livingston County; and, with his father, cleared about ten acres, after which he returned to Rochester. In 1847 he decided to leave New York, and went to Michigan, where, in the spring of 1848, he engaged in the foundry business with Deacon L. Chapin, in Hudson, Lenawee County. In August, 1852, he married Caroline C., daughter of his partner, Mr. Chapin. In the spring of 1853 he removed to Grand Rapids; and, in the following August, lost his wife, who left an infant daughter eleven days old. She bears her mother's name, and is still a loved inmate of her father's house. June 1, 1854, he went to Lowell, and opened a store, with a small stock of merchandise. There was a tribe of Indians near Lowell at that time, but not more than ten white families, and at first his customers were few and far between. His trade steadily increased, however, with the population; and, by industry and perseverance, he soon secured a handsome business. After making various changes in partners,—always, however, holding a controlling interest himself—he retired from mercantile life in 1865, since which time he has devoted his attention principally to farming. He is a large stockholder in the Lowell National Bank; and, with the exception of one year, has been its Vice-President since its organization in 1866. March 15, 1858, he married Nancy M. Chapin, sister of his former wife. They have five children,—two sons and three daughters,—all still living at home. He cast his first vote in 1844, and is a Republican. He has refrained from taking an active part in politics, and has never held public office. He claims that his education has been of a thoroughly practical kind. Although fluent, and, at times, forcible in private conversation, he can never be prevailed upon to make a public speech. He is liberal in his religious opinions, professing no adherence to any sect. His family are members of the Baptist Church. He is strictly devoted to temperance principles, and an abettor of every pure and moral enterprise.

**B**ILZ, ALOYS, of Spring Lake, Ottawa County, Michigan, was born in Bavaria in 1841, and emigrated, with his parents, to this country in 1849. They settled in Buffalo, New York, where nearly the whole of their large family still reside. Mr. Bilz attended a private school in Buffalo, and, at the age of eleven, was sent to St. Vincent's College, in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. He remained there only fifteen months; and, after a short visit to his parents, left home, at the early age of thirteen, with no fixed purpose, except an ambition to make his own fortune. He found employ-

ment as an apprentice in a hardware establishment at New Hamburg, Canada; and, two years later, went to Detroit, Michigan, where he engaged in the same business. He then worked seven years in the employ of J. F. Buffum, of New Baltimore. In 1864 he married Mary Alice, daughter of the Rev. O. C. Thompson, of Detroit; and, with a view of finding a permanent home, visited various parts of the State. In July, 1866, he established himself in the village of Spring Lake. He has, from the first, taken a prominent interest in everything pertaining to the prosperity of this locality. In 1871 his home and entire hardware and furniture establishment, valued at \$30,000, were destroyed by fire. This misfortune would have crushed a less energetic man, but Mr. Bilz entered a new store in just four weeks from the day of the fire. His early affiliations and family influences were all Democratic; but he is a Republican, and, as Chairman of the Republican Committee of the township, has, for years, contributed largely toward every success his party has attained in the locality. During the past year he was President of the village of Spring Lake, and is now Supervisor of his township.

**B**OWEN, DE WITT CLINTON, of Montague, Michigan, was born in Elbridge, Onondaga County, New York, October 29, 1836. His father's parents were of English-Welsh, and his mother's of Scotch-Irish, descent. The family emigrated to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in 1846, and shortly afterwards to Fond du Lac,—then a village consisting of some six families,—where Mr. Bowen spent six years of genuine frontier life. He was then placed in Lawrence University, Wisconsin, where he received a liberal education. He next made a tour of observation, of eighteen months' duration, through the Southern States, and returned home by way of Havana and New York. He established a lumber-yard at Milton Junction, Wisconsin, and soon after engaged in the manufacture of shingles at Oshkosh, Wisconsin. He married, December 23, 1863, Elizabeth, daughter of Michael Reason, an Irish gentleman of education and wealth in his native land, and one of the early settlers of Northern Wisconsin. In October, 1866, he removed to his present home, Montague, erected a mill, and commenced the manufacture of shingles, in which he has attained a national reputation. He is justly considered an authority in all matters pertaining to this branch of industry. In the organization of the White-River Log and Booming Company, he was an active participant; was its first permanent Secretary, and afterwards held the office of President. From the beginning he has been identified with the establishment and management of the public schools of Montague. He is a conservative politician, and, in no sense, a partisan.

**C**HAMPLIN, HON. JOHN W., Lawyer, Grand Rapids, Michigan, was born in Kingston, New York, February 17, 1831. His father, Jeffrey C. Champlin, lived on a farm in Delaware County, New York. Here Mr. Champlin remained, pursuing his studies at various schools, until he graduated at Delaware Institute, expecting to become a civil engineer. In 1854 he began the study of law in the office of his brother, S. G. Champlin, of Grand Rapids, Michigan. He was admitted to practice, in the courts of Michigan, in June, 1855, and was employed to prepare a draft of the new city charter, passed by the Legislature in 1857. He held the office of City Attorney for three years, and was elected Judge of the Recorder's Court in 1861. In 1867 he became Mayor of Grand Rapids. He is a member of the Masonic Fraternity, and, in 1871, was Grand Master of the State. Mr. Champlin has been a member of the Episcopal Church for twelve years. In politics he was a War Democrat, and generally votes with the Democratic party. He was married, in 1856, at Polo, Illinois, to Miss Ellen Moore. They have three children. For many years Mr. Champlin has devoted himself, with great success, to his profession. His practice is yearly increasing, not only in Michigan, but in the Supreme Court of the United States. He is a gentleman of spotless integrity, a wise counselor, and a keen, determined advocate.

**C**HURCH, HON. THOS. BROWNELL, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, was born in September, 1821, in the town of Dighton, Bristol County, Massachusetts. His grandfather, Thomas Church, was a Colonel in the Rhode Island Line during the Revolutionary War. He is a direct descendant of Benjamin Church, who commanded the united forces of the Eastern Colonies during the Indian wars, which terminated in the death of the Indian King Philip, of Mount Hope. On account of delicate health and defective vision, the subject of this sketch had no regular schooling in his boyhood, but obtained instruction at home, and was from early youth a reader of all books to which he could obtain access. After he had spent several years in sea voyaging, he was believed to be able, after a rapid but thorough preparation, to undertake a college course; and did so, going through Trinity College, then called Washington, at Hartford, Connecticut. Subsequently he went South, and there, for some years, engaged in teaching, and regained his health. He then chose the profession of law, and spent a year in Cambridge Law School, Massachusetts. Then, removing to Michigan, he studied in the law office of Lieutenant-Governor J. Wright Gordon, at Marshall; and, having been licensed to practice, he removed to Grand Rapids, in 1843, where he has since resided, and

practiced his profession. He was appointed, by Governor John S. Barry, Prosecuting Attorney of Kent County, which office he retained two years. In 1850 he was elected a delegate to the second Constitutional Convention of the State of Michigan, his colleague being Hon. Rix Robinson, a distinguished pioneer of that State. In 1851 he was elected a Representative to the State Legislature,—his colleague being the present Senator, Hon. Thomas W. Ferry,—from a district comprising Kent and Ottawa counties. In 1855 he was again elected the Representative of Kent County. In 1852 he was elected Mayor of the city of Grand Rapids; and, in that year, was presented as their choice for the Congressional nomination, by the northern counties of a district comprising all Western Michigan. In 1858, in 1860, and in 1862, he was the Democratic Congressional candidate in that district,—overwhelmingly Republican, especially in the latter of those years,—bearing the party standard, but having no hope of election. A Douglas Democrat in 1860, he subsequently was a pronounced War Democrat, and earnestly promoted enlistments in the Federal Army. Since then, Mr. Church has quietly practiced his profession at Grand Rapids, having engaged, since the commencement of practice, in several important civil and criminal causes. In the estimation of the profession, he manifests much power as a pleader, while, as a public speaker, he has frequently addressed large audiences on political and other subjects. There is probably no man in Michigan to-day who, to thorough knowledge of history, adds such facility of expression. He has always been a persistent student; and, even now, at his advanced age, is desirous of acquiring knowledge. In 1841 Mr. Church married Miss Mary E., daughter of Colonel John Stuart, of Battle Creek, Michigan. They have but one son living,—Frederick I. Church, an artist, at present engaged in the establishment of Harper Brothers, in New York City.

**C**HATFIELD, REV. LARMON, of Portland, was born in Windham, Green County, New York, September 7, 1807, and was the son of Josiah and Olive Chatfield. His early years were spent in hard work on the farm, as he was the only child capable of assisting his father in this labor. His parents were unable to send him, for more than a few months, to the rude district school in the neighborhood; and this, with a few months' academic training, which he earned in after years, constituted his school education. But his keen intellect and studious disposition triumphed over all obstacles; and so well did he turn to profit his limited advantages, that, in the days of his pulpit power, no man was more accurate in the use of language. He



knew well the meaning of words, and had rare skill in fitting them into rugged sentences to express his earnest thoughts. His parents were members of the Presbyterian Church, and were firm, intelligent believers in its doctrines; but, in his boyhood, he manifested a dislike for the teachings of that church, and sought every opportunity to play truant from it, and attend the more congenial meetings of the Methodists. His heart was touched with their fervent preaching, and he was early converted. For a time, however, as he approached manhood, he "fell from grace," as he expressed it, until, at the age of twenty-two, under the preaching of Elder Bangs, he again came under religious conviction, and united with the Methodist Church. Immediately afterwards, he entered upon the work of the ministry. He was licensed as an exhorter, and took his first work as a subordinate in the old Ohio Conference of 1835, and was sent to Mount Clemens, Michigan. In 1836 his name appeared in the minutes of the Mansfield Conference, and he was sent to Plymouth. There he married Miss Lorimer, who died eight months later. In 1838 he was sent to Lyons, the charge then including the territory now covered by the thriving village of Portland. Here he assisted at the funeral of Philo Bogue, in 1839. Two years later, he was married to Mrs. Eliza Bogue, by Rev. Allen Staples, since deceased. After serving two years on the Lyons circuit, he was appointed Presiding Elder of the Shiawassee District. Four years of district work, in which he traveled from Grand Haven to Saginaw, proved his efficiency; and, at the expiration of the term, he was sent as Presiding Elder to the Adrian District. He lived at Adrian three years, poorly paid, but setting forth such grand truths that there remain indelibly fixed on the minds of those who heard him, profound impressions of the preaching of Larmon Chatfield. In 1848 his health failed, and he was placed upon the list of superannuates. Two years and a half later, his health having improved, he was re-admitted, and appointed to Lansing. In the fall of 1853, he was transferred to Rock River Conference, Rockford, Illinois. In 1854 he returned to the Michigan Conference, and was, at his own request, retired from the active work of the Gospel ministry. His last attendance at Conference was at a session held at Three Rivers, in 1868, where the appearance of the old man, whose tall form was seen going forward to the altar of that Church to which he had consecrated his life's best efforts, is remembered with mournful pleasure by many who were present. From this time until his death, which occurred July 23, 1876, he resided at Portland, where his home was during the effective years of his ministry, and where his form now reposes in the quiet sleep of death. In the minutes of the forty-first session of the Michigan Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, a touching tribute was paid to his efficiency as a preacher

and his character as a man. He was particularly known as a doctrinal preacher; and, as a controversialist, he had few superiors. Pushing his investigations to the utmost, he searched the word of God for his authority, and stored his mind with the truths which he found therein; and, when occasion required, launched them forth in the thunder of his arguments against what he considered fallacies in any creed or doctrine. He would, in a sermon of an hour or more, probe to the bottom the dogmas of his religious opponents, and was celebrated for his matchless controversial sermons on "Calvinism," the "Doctrine of Decrees," and the "Final Preservation of the Saints." For some time before his death, he made his home in Portland with his son-in-law, F. G. Lee, of whose family his aged wife is still a cherished member.

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**CHAMPLIN, BRIGADIER-GENERAL S. G.**— Stephen Gardner Champlin, Grand Rapids, Michigan, was born July 1, 1827, in Kingston, Ulster County, New York. He was descended from the Champ-lins of Rhode Island and Connecticut. His father, Jeffrey C. Champlin, was born in South Kingston, Rhode Island. The life of the subject of this biography was varied, and, in some respects, remarkable. In early boyhood he evinced a strong and vigorous intellect, and a taste for reading history. The local library of the school district in which he lived afforded him an opportunity, to a limited extent, of gratifying his desires in this respect; and, before he had reached his twelfth year, he had read all the volumes it contained. He had familiarized himself with the histories of Rome, Greece, England, France, and his own country. That which most attracted him, however, was the history of the wars of Napoleon. He was as familiar with the campaigns of Napoleon as he was with his spelling-book. He attended the common schools until the age of fourteen, when he was sent to the Rhinebeck Academy, at Rhinebeck, Dutchess County, New York. He remained here but one term; and, at the age of fifteen, entered the office of Dr. S. B. Streets, at Roxbury, Delaware County, New York, and began the study of medicine. At eighteen he commenced practicing as a physician, at Wawarsing, Ulster County, New York. In this profession he was successful, and built up an extensive business. It was not, however, congenial to his tastes; and, at the age of twenty, he gave up his practice as a physician and entered the law office of Hon. T. R. Westbrook, of Kingston, New York, and commenced the study of law. He attended the law school of Professor Fowler, at Ballston Spa, and, at the age of twenty-two, passed a creditable examination before the Bench of the Supreme Court at Albany. He was admitted to the practice of law, and soon afterward

opened an office at Richmond, in Ulster County. He was married to Miss Mary E. Smedes, of Wawarsing, Ulster County, New York, on the 1st day of January, 1851. In 1853 he removed to Grand Rapids, Michigan, and formed a copartnership with Lucius Patterson, who was, at that time, one of the best lawyers in Western Michigan. Here he advanced rapidly in his profession. In 1857 he was elected Judge of the Recorder's Court. In 1858 he was elected, upon the Democratic ticket, Prosecuting Attorney of Kent County; and, as an index of his popularity, it may be stated that he was the only candidate elected on the ticket,—although his opponent was an able lawyer and unexceptionable man,—all the other nominees of the ticket being defeated by an average of five hundred majority. He discharged the duties of his office with great credit and ability. He had always acted with the Democratic party, and was a staunch supporter of Mr. Douglas for the Presidency in 1860. At the breaking out of the Rebellion, in 1861, he enlisted, and was commissioned a Major in the 3d Regiment of Michigan Volunteers. This regiment started for Washington on the 13th day of June, 1861. It was placed in Brigadier-General Richardson's Brigade. On account of the illness of the Colonel and Lieutenant-Colonel, the regiment passed to the command of Major Champlin. He was a good disciplinarian, and, at the same time, won the respect and confidence of his men. July 30, 1861, he was ordered to make a *reconnaissance* in the direction of Morrison's Mill. It resulted in a sharp skirmish with the enemy. The manner in which he executed this order drew from the General in command the following notice:

"HEAD-QUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, }  
WASHINGTON, September 5, 1861. }  
"Brigadier-General Israel B. Richardson, Commanding  
Brigade Volunteers."

"GENERAL—Major-General McClellan has received Major S. G. Champlin's report of his *reconnaissance* and skirmish on the 30th ultimo. The General is much pleased with Major Champlin's dispositions on the occasion, which he deems eminently proper; and he desires you to convey his thanks to Major Champlin for the efficient manner in which this service was performed. I have the honor to be,

"Very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
"S. WILLIAMS,  
"Assistant Adjutant-General."

He was promoted and commissioned Colonel of the regiment on the 22d day of October, 1861. He was with the Army of the Potomac in the battles of Williamsburg and Fair Oaks, and was shot through the hip at the latter place. He commanded his regiment again at the battle of Groveton. One incident which occurred at Fortress Monroe will illustrate the force of character of General Champlin. While besieging Yorktown he was prostrated with a severe attack of rheumatism, by which he was confined to his room at Fortress Monroe when the orders were given to advance on Williamsburg. All expected a desperate battle there. The army had moved,

when Dr. Z. Bliss, the surgeon of the regiment, observed Colonel Champlin's horse saddled and hitched in front of his quarters. He hastened to the ward occupied by the Colonel, and found him hobbling around, and, with the greatest difficulty, putting on his regimentals. The surgeon expostulated, insisting that it would endanger his recovery, as it was raining at the time. The Colonel said nothing, but still kept making his preparations. Finally, the surgeon demanded his reason for thus setting at defiance his advice and endangering his own life; to which the Colonel replied, as he buckled on his sword: "I am not going to have to spend any of the rest of my days in explaining why I was not at the battle of Williamsburg." He was with his regiment at that battle. He was promoted to the rank of Brigadier-General of Volunteers on the 29th of November, 1862. He had never recovered from the effects of the wound he received at Fair Oaks. His health was undermined by this and by service in the field. He obtained leave of absence for thirty days to recruit his wasted energies, and went to his home at Grand Rapids, Michigan; but, instead of improving, his disease gradually grew worse, until the 24th of January, 1864, when he expired. Thus died one of the purest and noblest defenders of our Government, beloved and lamented by all who knew him. His was a high order of talent. Gifted, courteous and kind, he endeared himself to all within the circle of his acquaintance. In conclusion, we can add no more fitting tribute than that contained in a letter written by Hon. T. R. Westbrook, of Kingston, New York, to Hon. I. Harris, when the nomination of Colonel Champlin to a Brigadier-Generalship was pending before the Senate. He says: "I can say that, if any man is worthy of a Brigadier's star, he is. I know all about him. Years ago he read law in my office, and was with me a long time. I know him thoroughly and well. Most gallantly has he served his country, as his scars will tell. Among the first in the field, he has served faithfully all through."

CLUTE, LEMUEL, Lawyer, of Ionia, was born in Saratoga County, New York, August 7, 1834. His parents, Richard and Lucy (Clements) Clute, removed to Bethlehem, Albany County, New York, when Lemuel was but one year old. He attended the primary schools at the place of his birth, and subsequently took a scientific course at the Agricultural College of Michigan. He left school when twenty-six years of age, and immediately commenced the study of law, in the office of Hon. Albert Williams. After reading there three years, he was admitted to the bar, November 25, 1863. He then entered into partnership with his preceptor, and continued with him three years. At the end of that time he formed a partnership with







Fig. 1 by Wm. L. E. N.Y.

*O. C. Comstock*



J. S. Bennett, which lasted two years. He has since practiced alone, with the exception of two years, in which he had one of his students as partner. In 1869 he was elected a member of the Board of Education, and has since been twice re-elected. In 1876 he was elected a member of the Board of Aldermen. He has always been one of the most public-spirited citizens, doing all in his power to advance the interests of the city. When he was but ten years old, he joined a temperance society, and ever since has been an earnest advocate of the cause. He has never taken a glass of liquor as a beverage, and feels that he has been guarded from it by his mother's influence, exerted in his early life. In the year 1854, Mr. Clute commenced an extensive round of travel, visiting South America, the Sandwich Islands, most of the other islands of the Pacific, China, Japan, and the northern coast of Siberia, spending about four years on the voyage. Mr. Clute's ideas of a religious life may all be embraced in the following: "Learn to love what God loves, and to dislike what God dislikes; give your best thoughts and most sincere efforts to this end; and, when death comes, and you go before the Great Father, you shall not be turned aside simply because you have not thought in accordance with a rule you can not understand nor comprehend." He was brought up a Democrat; has always voted the Democratic ticket, and taken an active part in every campaign; making public speeches, and writing for the press. He was married, February 22, 1862, to Miss Ellen McPherson, daughter of William McPherson, of Ionia, Michigan, who came to this country from Scotland, and settled in Ionia when quite a young man. Mr. Clute has four children,—William, Richard, Lucy and Robert. "Mr. Clute, like all men of self-made prominence," says an intimate acquaintance, "has characteristics which boldly challenge observation, and clearly explain the secrets of his success. He is of medium size, has an intellectual cast of head, piercing eyes, thoughtful expression, and a reserved and dignified mien. One needs only to look at him to know that he is highly endowed by nature; nor has he buried the talents thus entrusted to him, but has so used them that he can render a good account. Having chosen the profession of law, and believing that what should be done at all should be well done, he laid a good foundation by mastering all of the common, and many of the higher English branches, and then turned his attention to law itself in that thorough and untiring manner in which few have the disposition or ability to study. He, therefore, entered upon his profession with high qualifications and bright prospects. Going thus into the chosen field of his life-labor, with a strong and restless ambition, and habits of ever-increasing industry,—not allowing himself to be enticed from its honored paths by the charms of politics, which have led so many

lawyers into the fens of disappointment and ruin,—he has built up a practice much more creditable than that of the average lawyer of his years. Few attorneys labor harder, more zealously, or to better purpose for their clients than does Mr. Clute; or, by their work, confer greater honor upon their calling. He is a rapid and fluent speaker, always approaching his subject directly; contenting himself with reason and logic, rather than rhetoric and poetry, and thereby often securing victory when fancy and imagery might have lost it. His uniform good habits and example are above all question, and have secured him a reputation and position, both as a citizen and a lawyer, which few enjoy. His special friendships are few, but to those he is faithful. To his domestic ties he is scrupulously true. He is devoted to his family, feeling no attention or sacrifice too great for them. He is deeply interested in the public welfare, and gives much of his time and influence towards its promotion. He is especially active in the cause of education, and the enterprises of his own city. Although naturally modest and retiring, he is bold at the call of duty; and his blows, if they are given, are dealt with a power not easily resisted, leaving an impress not readily removed. He seldom attempts wit or narration of anecdote, but has a keen relish for them, when they fall, chaste and fresh, from the lips of others. He likes his own opinions, but not so much because they are his, as because of his ability to defend and vindicate them. Possessing a great and active moral element, he is one of the valuable pillars of the Church, as well as of moral enterprises generally; in a word, he is a man, citizen, and friend. Few are better, have brighter prospects, or are more esteemed; and far better would it be for the world if there were more like him."

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**COMSTOCK, HON. CHARLES CARTER**, Grand Rapids, Michigan, was born at Sullivan, Cheshire County, New Hampshire, on the 5th of March, 1818. He acquired his education in the public schools of his native town during the winter months, being engaged in laboring on his father's farm in summer, until he attained his eighteenth year. He then induced his father to sell the old farm of one hundred acres, for \$2,800,—then considered a very large price for the place,—and purchase another farm of two hundred and eight acres, with first-class improvements, for \$5,000. Such a proposition, from so young a man, indicated an enterprising character. By his help and good management, the amount of his father's property was nearly trebled by the time his son had attained his majority. He now became desirous to change his occupation, and engage in mercantile pursuits in Boston; but his help

was too much needed on the farm to admit of his doing so. In 1842 he directed his attention to the lumber business; he built a saw-mill, and soon owned several. In 1853 he emigrated to Grand Rapids, Michigan, a town, at that time, of only about three thousand inhabitants. Here he engaged in the same business; and, with his partners, as E. F. Ward & Co., brought to Grand Rapids the first machinery ever used in that city in the manufacture, for the wholesale market, of doors, window-sashes, frames and blinds. In September, 1857, he purchased the furniture factory and business of E. W. & S. A. Winchester; when, by partnership complications, and the suspension of the banks in that year, he was compelled to make an assignment. Rallying, however, from the blow, by the native energy of his character, he, in the next four years, paid his debts in full, and those of the parties with whom he had been connected; and, in 1862, inaugurated the first successful wholesale furniture trade entered upon at Grand Rapids. In 1863 he sold out a half interest in this business to James M. and Ezra T. Nelson. In the fall of the same year, he formed a partnership with Mr. Bowles, in the manufacture of pails; and, during the following year, bought his partner's interest in that business. In 1865 Mr. Comstock sold his interest in the furniture business to his son and two others. Since then he has formed no partnerships. He is still engaged in the lumber business, and in the manufacture of pails, tubs, sashes and doors. He has manufactured, on an average, ten million feet of lumber each year, for many years. He is also engaged in farming, possessing several farms, covering in all seven hundred acres, most of which are under cultivation. In 1863-64 Mr. Comstock was Mayor of Grand Rapids. In 1870 he was nominated for Governor of the State by the Democratic party; and, in 1873, for member of Congress as the people's candidate. In 1840, in his native town, he married Miss Mary M. Winchester, to whose fidelity and devotion he attributes much of his success. A devoted Christian, her influence was felt in the tenor of his whole life. In 1863 he was called to mourn her loss. In 1865 he married Mrs. Cornelia Davis, of Grand Rapids, and his present family includes two children by this union. In July, 1865, he was again afflicted by the loss of his eldest daughter, her husband, Albert A. Stone, and their little son, who were victims of the awful wreck of the steamer "Brother Jonathan," which went down in a gale off the coast of California. On the 16th of September, 1870, Mr. Comstock was again a sufferer by the death of his only son, Tileston A. Comstock, in the twenty-seventh year of his age, whose fine business capacity had early shown itself. He was a young man of great promise. When but nineteen years old, he had the entire charge of his father's half-interest in the large furniture manufactory of Comstock, Nelson & Co.; and, when twenty-one, pur-

chased a quarter interest in that business. He was married, in 1865, to Miss Ellen, daughter of Hon. A. B. Turner, of Grand Rapids. The many fine qualities of his mind and heart caused him to be beloved by all who knew him. At the present time, Mr. Comstock's philanthropy and public spirit are manifested in his employment of several hundred men in his business. Unlike others who, within the past few years, have preferred to divest themselves of business care and responsibility, by turning their manufacturing property into stocks and bonds, which give employment to no workingmen, he has, at a great sacrifice to himself, persisted in attending to his large business engagements, at but a modicum of profit compared with what he would realize as legal interest on the same amount of capital if converted into Government securities. It is to such men, in these days of human selfishness, that all honor should be awarded: men who feel that those workingmen, artisans, and mechanics, who have helped them to accumulate their wealth, are, under Divine Providence, yet their creditors; to whom they owe an obligation that nothing less than continuing to afford them constant employment for the support of themselves and families, can repay. No record of Mr. Comstock's life would do him justice that did not make mention of his princely donation, in the name of his wife and daughter, deceased, toward the building of the Baptist Church, at Grand Rapids, of which they were members. It consisted of twenty city lots, which have already netted the society some \$7,000, with part yet undisposed of, by which they were enabled to finish their beautiful and commodious house of worship; Mr. Comstock has thus been the most liberal donor. This is but an illustration of the public spirit for which he has been noted during his entire residence in the city, and by which he has won for himself a place in the esteem and affections of his fellow-citizens.

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**C**ARY, ALFRED X., Banker, Grand Rapids, was born at Coventry, Rhode Island, on the 28th of March, 1811. His father, Joseph Cary, was originally from Connecticut. His mother was a daughter of Ruly Eaton, of Connecticut. Mr. Cary received his education at Cherry Valley Academy, Otsego County, New York. During the winter of 1829-30, he taught school; and, in the spring of 1830, became clerk in a dry-goods store in Cooperstown, New York, in which position he continued two years. At the end of this time, he went to Newark, New York, where he entered into the merchant tailor business in his own name. Remaining here about two years, he removed to Brockport, New York, and engaged in the same business on a much larger scale. Two years later, his store was consumed



by fire. In 1838 he removed to Painesville, Ohio, where he went into the hotel business, and remained two years and a half, when he returned to Brockport, and assisted his brother in the collection of canal tolls. In 1843 he removed to Adrian, Michigan, engaging in the dry-goods business, in which he continued for about one year, when he went to Grand Rapids, and opened a general mercantile store. After remaining here two years, he sold his stock of goods, and was employed by Henry R. Williams as Captain on a steamboat. He continued in this capacity for three years, at the end of which time he again engaged in the hotel business, as proprietor of the National Hotel, which then occupied the ground where the Morton House now stands, at Grand Rapids. In 1852, he was again employed on the steamboat, as Captain, by H. R. Williams; and, in 1853, in connection with John Lyman and H. R. Williams, he bought the steam tug "Niles," and taking it to Chicago, acted as Captain for several months, when the tug was sold. Mr. Cary, with John M. Fox, then bought the Imperial Flour-Mill, located at Bucna Vista, about twelve miles from Grand Rapids. He afterward purchased the interest of Mr. Fox, and entered into a partnership with R. M. Collins, the firm name becoming A. X. Cary & Co. This firm carried on business for fifteen years, when Mr. Cary bought an interest in the Valley City Mills, at Grand Rapids, and carried on the business for some years, under the firm name of Cary, Moon & Collins. In 1870 an interest in this mill was sold to Mr. Barnes, and the firm was changed to A. X. Cary & Co., in which name it is still continued. In 1854 a company was formed for the purpose of building the steamer "Olive Branch," in which Mr. Cary had an interest; with Mr. William M. Ferry, he had the entire direction of the work. In 1855 he took passage at Detroit for Cleveland on the steamer "E. R. Collins," which took fire when off Molden, and burned to the water's edge. Mr. Cary jumped into the lake, taking with him a stool, through the support of which he was enabled to float until picked up by a boat. In 1870 Mr. Cary, with several parties, originated the Grand Rapids Savings Bank, of which he was chosen, and still remains, President. In 1833 he was married to Sarah Murdock, of Newark, New York. Their only son, Charles H. Cary, enlisted in the army, during the year 1861, as a member of the 3d Michigan Infantry, and soon after became Lieutenant in the signal corps. On the 18th of July, 1863, he died at Jackson, Mississippi. Mr. Cary's only remaining child, Mrs. Elizabeth D. Collins, widow of the late R. M. Collins, resides with him. In politics, Mr. Cary casts his vote with the Republican party. In 1848 and 1849, he was elected Collector and Treasurer of Grand Rapids. In 1863 he was elected Alderman; and, for about twelve years, was connected with the fire department. In 1860 he was chosen a delegate to the National Convention

which nominated Abraham Lincoln for President of the United States. Mr. Cary has been a member of the Episcopal Church for twelve years, and a member of the vestry the greater portion of this time.

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**C**AULFIELD JOHN, Wholesale Grocer, of Grand Rapids, was born near Newry, in the County of Down, Ireland, December 25, 1838. In his veins flows the blood both of the liberty-loving Celt and the chivalrous Norman; for his mother's ancestors were natives of Wales, and belonged to the Morgan family, which was of Norman descent; and his father's settled in Ireland in the sixteenth century, where the name Caulfield became conspicuous in national affairs. He attended the "National School" of his native country until he was fourteen years of age, when he entered the employ of a grocer. As Newry was a seaport town, many stories reached it of success in America, and John Caulfield longed to try his fortune in that new El Dorado. At length, at the age of nineteen, he embarked for the United States; and, after arriving in New York, went directly to Grand Rapids, Michigan. There he entered the wholesale grocery house of George W. Waterman, and remained in his employ about five years. In 1864 he commenced business for himself as a retail grocer, in the village of Ada. Soon after, being convinced that a larger field was needed for his growing trade, he returned to Grand Rapids, and formed a copartnership with Hon. John Clancy in the retail grocery business. After one year, Mr. Clancy, because of his extensive lumber interests, withdrew from the firm. Mr. Caulfield then gradually added to his business an extensive wholesale trade, until now he has one of the largest and best establishments of the kind in the city. In 1871 his store and goods were destroyed by fire. With characteristic energy, he soon built another and finer building on the ruins of the old one; and, with this stocked from basement to third story, was soon again in the full tide of success. He is also one of the largest real estate owners in the city, having already platted two additions to the city of Grand Rapids. Mr. Caulfield is a member of the Roman Catholic Church. He has never aspired to political honors. Since the abolition of slavery, he has been identified with the Democratic party; but, previous to that time, was a Republican. He was married, in February, 1864, to Miss Esther Eagen. They have had six children, one son and five daughters, all of whom are living. Mr. Caulfield is slender, and of medium height. His manner is genial and affable. He is a man of strong impulses, correct judgment and sterling integrity, and is widely known and highly esteemed. He has that force of character and aggressiveness of disposition which make a leader among men.

**C**ONSAUL, JACOB V., Contractor and Builder, Grand Haven, Michigan, was born in Schenectady, New York, October 26, 1833. He is one of the thirteen children of Jacob C. and Elizabeth (Van Horman) Consaul. His father was a contractor and builder. He participated in the war of 1812, and was a brother of Colonel Consaul, who was prominently connected with the old stage-line, running from Schenectady to Utica, in 1835. Jacob V. Consaul received a fair business education in the academy at Jordan, New York. After leaving school, he learned the carpenter's trade with his father; and, at the age of nineteen, began working at his trade, on his own account, in Jordan. He afterwards engaged in boat-building, which he continued about ten years. In December, 1863, he enlisted in Company H., 2d New York Infantry. He was wounded at Strawberry Plains, Virginia, in December, 1864; and was, in consequence, honorably discharged from the army. He returned home, and engaged in boat-building, in Chittenango, New York, for two years. July 20, 1867, he removed to Grand Haven, where he has a wide reputation as a master-builder. He is a member of the Masonic Fraternity, the society of Odd-Fellows, and the Knights of Honor. He is a consistent member of the Episcopal Church. Politically, he is a Republican. He is distinguished as a sympathetic, kind, and benevolent man. Mr. Consaul was married, May 20, 1855, to Miss Roena M. Snell, of Onondaga, New York. They have a family of two sons and one daughter.

**C**OOK, J. M., M. D., of Muskegon, was born near Pontiac, Oakland County, Michigan, March 21, 1841. His father, M. D. Cook, was of English and Scotch ancestry, and was born at Hartford, Connecticut, in 1796. His mother was of English descent, and was born at Ballston, Saratoga County, New York, in 1800. For several years, his father was engaged in the manufacture of furniture, at Saratoga; but, at an early day, removed to Michigan. There he successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits. Soon after the death of his mother, which occurred in 1858, J. M. Cook left home, with the determination to prepare himself immediately for the medical profession. Entering Oxford Seminary, he soon found a firm friend in the estimable principal, Prof. Taft, whose excellent incentives afforded him much encouragement. Having no funds at his command, with which to defray his college expenses, he was compelled to devote much of his time to the occupation of teaching. While thus engaged, he also gave some attention to the study of medicine and surgery. In the summer of 1862 he discontinued his studies, and entered the army, as a member of the 5th Michigan Cavalry. He

participated in many battles, under the late General Custer, in one of which he was severely wounded. He was taken prisoner at the battle of Trevillian's Depot, Virginia, in June, 1864, and remained in captivity until the following January, when he made his escape to the Union lines, at Jacksonville, Florida. He remained in service until the close of the war, and then resumed his medical studies with the late M. L. Green, M. D., of Pontiac, Michigan. He studied thus three summers, spending the remainder of each year at the Medical Department of Michigan University, and Rush Medical College, at Chicago. He graduated from the latter institution in the spring of 1868. In August, of the same year, he settled in Muskegon, Michigan. Here he soon gained many friends and a lucrative practice; and is now one of the leading physicians in that part of the State. Since residing in Muskegon, he has spent three winters at the medical colleges and hospitals of New York, Philadelphia and Ann Arbor, in order to keep pace with the rapidly growing science. He is a member of the Michigan State Medical Society, and is United States Examining Surgeon.

**C**OOK, RUFUS R., late of Otisco, was born September 11, 1811, at Hartland, Connecticut. When he was three or four years old, his parents moved to Rome, New York, and from there to Bergen, in the same State, where he lived until he was eighteen. In 1829 he moved, with his parents, to the Territory of Michigan, and settled in Avon, Oakland County. In 1837, in company with his brother-in-law, John L. Morse, and Amos and William Russell, he started on a prospecting tour. They left their teams at a point on Looking-glass River, about three miles west of Longsbury, Shiawassee County, where they built a boat out of material brought with them. In this they were four days in reaching the mouth of Flat River. From there they traveled on foot to the Burr-Oak Plains, in Otisco, where they made locations; Mr. Cook taking the land where a village commemorates his name. Here he and Mr. Morse erected a shelter; but, after winter had fairly set in, they went home, on foot. In February they returned, with their wives, and the young lads, C. F. Morse and Calvin Gage; taking also a span of horses, nineteen head of cattle, eighteen swine, and, as they supposed, money enough to carry them through to harvest time. Nine days of traveling, in extremely cold weather, brought them to Lyons, where they found themselves unable to pay the tavern bill, as they had no money which the landlord would take, the first intimation they had of the "wildcat collapse." They were, therefore, obliged to run in debt, but paid their bills the next fall, when the sale of cattle gave them some money that had a value. In the winter of 1839, Messrs.





*Benjamin B. Cook*









*Geo. S. Cooper*  
*Tonia*



Cook, Morse, Lincoln, and the Baldwin brothers, built the first saw-mill in Montcalm County. It had a capacity for cutting three or four thousand feet a day, which, at that time, was considered quite large. They sent their lumber down the Flat and Grand rivers on rafts, and sold it at Grand Rapids for goods. This was the beginning of the vast lumber business on Flat River. In 1846 Mr. Cook bought the hotel at the "Corners," which became famous for its anniversary balls. In a few years Mr. Cook became a trader and general business man. He was possessed of good business qualifications; was a good judge of men, and had more than common influence over them. He was highly esteemed and honored by the community, having held, for about thirty-five years, the position of Postmaster. He was also Justice of the Peace the greater part of that time; was Supervisor a number of years, and held other positions. Through all his life he was the recipient of the most responsible and delicate trusts, which were never abused; and, although he held so many positions, he never sought office for himself. When he worked for others, however, he had great power. Mr. Cook was a representative man among the early settlers of the Grand River Valley. He was public-spirited, and contributed largely, in many ways, to the growth and prosperity of the country, and was well known throughout Ionia, Kent and Montcalm counties. He was destined by nature to be an influential man in any community in which his lot might be cast. Mr. Cook was married, January 2, 1834, to Miss Cordelia W. Cowles. He died at his home, in Otisco, January 6, 1875, in the sixty-fourth year of his age, mourned by the entire community.



**C**OOOPER, GEORGE SAMSON, Merchant, of Ionia, was born at Paris, Oxford County, Maine, January 27, 1830. Both his parents were of New England birth. His father, John Cooper, was a native of Plymouth, Massachusetts, and was descended from the early English settlers; and his mother, Rebecca (Matthews) Cooper, a native of Sumner, Maine, was also of Puritan ancestry, her family having resided at Newberryport, Massachusetts, for several generations. The parents of Mr. Cooper were in moderate circumstances, his father being an industrious and persevering agriculturist, who, by his energy and integrity, had won the esteem of all who knew him. Mr. Cooper received his preliminary education in the common schools of his native town, which he attended until seventeen years of age. At that time, following out the bent of his inclination for business, he went to Boston, Massachusetts, and served his novitiate in mercantile life in a general store, where he remained for eighteen months. Desiring to finish his education, he then entered South Paris Academy, from

which he graduated eighteen months later. Feeling himself now thoroughly fitted to battle with the vicissitudes of life, he served another clerkship of one year in Boston, and then returned to his native town, where he was married. The lady of his choice was Miss Florinda Royal, eldest daughter of Rev. Solon Royal, a clergyman of the Free-will Baptist denomination. He has been a preacher of the Gospel for thirty years; and, during that time, has had pastoral charge of several churches in New England. Two years later, Mr. Cooper, following the example of a great many who had preceded him to the West, left his Eastern home, and removed to Dartford, Greenlake County, Wisconsin, in the fall of 1854. Here he opened a general mercantile store, and transacted a successful business there for six years. But Mr. Cooper was too enterprising a business man to be content with the opportunities for development which Dartford afforded; and, in 1860, he removed to Ionia, Michigan, where he immediately settled down to business. Mindful of his New England origin, he adopted for his trade mark the title of "New England Store," and this distinguishing name is still prominent in Ionia County. He conducted his business alone, with marked success, until 1865, when he took in as partner his brother-in-law, I. M. Thayer. Since then, his business has been conducted under the firm name of Cooper & Thayer, and is to-day the leading dry-goods and carpet house in Ionia County. A public-spirited citizen, Mr. Cooper has often been called from his business to serve in an official capacity. In the years 1871-72, before Ionia was organized as a city, he filled the position of President of the town, and has since been, for eight years, a member of the Board of Aldermen. In 1866 he was appointed United States Assessor, by President Johnson, and has been a member of the Democratic State Central Committee for two terms. He has also been actively identified with the financial and educational interests of the town, and an earnest supporter of any enterprise calculated to improve its condition and prospects. For a number of years, he was a Trustee of the First National Bank, and was elected its first Vice-President. During the construction of what is now called the D. L. & N. R. R., he filled the position of Director of the road. He is now a member of the School Board, to which he was elected in 1877. In the society of Free-Masons, he has been an active member since 1863, and has passed through the Blue Lodge and Chapter degrees, and also the Encampment of Knights Templar. He has filled the offices of Junior and Senior Warden in the Blue Lodge, and has been Generalissimo in the Encampment. Although brought up in the Baptist faith, he has been a member of the Presbyterian Church for twenty-one years; and, for fifteen years of that time, has been Superintendent of the Sabbath school. He is now an ordained elder, and a member of the Board of Trus-

tees of his church. In politics, he has always coincided with the principles of the Democratic party, although he twice voted for Abraham Lincoln. The secret of Mr. Cooper's success has been his innate shrewdness and capacity for business, his inexhaustible fund of energy and perseverance, and his unflinching honesty; these, added to his unvarying courtesy and kindly demeanor, contribute to make him a successful merchant, a useful citizen, a kind neighbor, a benevolent friend. He lives handsomely in a beautiful residence which he built in the suburbs of Ionia. They have no children. Mr. Cooper's parents are still living, and settled near their son in Ionia.

**CREAGER, CAPT. MARVIN HENRY**, of Grand Haven, Michigan, was born May 1, 1836, in Auburn, Geauga County, Ohio. His parents were of English and German descent, and both were natives of New York. His education, begun in the common schools, was completed at the Western Reserve Eclectic Institute, Hiram, Ohio. He taught, after leaving school, first in Ohio, and afterwards in Michigan. In 1871 he engaged in the lumber business, and the manufacture of furniture. The following year, losses by fire necessitated his return to teaching. In 1872 he was elected Treasurer of Ottawa County; and, by continued re-elections, has held the office to the present time. Shortly after the War of the Rebellion began, he enlisted as a private in Company F, of the Second Michigan Cavalry, commanded by General Sheridan. He received his commission, as Captain, at Waterloo, Alabama, in the winter of 1864-65. He then served under General McCook as Aid-de-camp and Inspector-General of his division. This division captured a fort from the rebels, at West Point, on the Chattahoochee, April 16, 1865, a week after the surrender of General Lee,—of which fact they knew nothing, as they were cut off from communication with the Union Army. After the surrender, Captain Creager was ordered by General McCook, to Tallahassee, Florida, to receive the ordnance and military property in that State. He was detailed, subsequently, at Edgefield, Tennessee, as Judge-Advocate, at a general court-martial convened there. He participated in nearly all the important battles, sieges, skirmishes, and marches of his noted regiment. He was mustered out of service, at Jackson, on the 1st of September, 1865. Captain Creager has always been an active member of the Republican party. During 1876-77 he was Secretary of the Ottawa County Republican Committee. November 18, 1866, he married Alma Eldred, of Delta, Ohio. She died March 15, 1874. December 31, 1874, he married Mary Paine, of Sparta, Michigan.

**CORNELL, REV. ALFRED**, of Ionia, Michigan, was born in the town of Eaton, Madison County, New York, July 7, 1813. His parents were natives of Rhode Island. They lived for many years in Morrisville, New York, and then removed to Michigan. Dr. Cornell received his education at Madison University, Hamilton, New York. After leaving the university, he was ordained to the ministry, and was pastor of a church in Macedon, Wayne County, two years. He removed, in 1845, to Ionia; was pastor of the Baptist Church there seventeen years. After four years in Norwalk, Ohio, the Baptist Church at Ionia invited him to resume his pastoral duties with them, and he accepted for the brief period of two years, when he resigned, and took charge of a church in Smyrna. At the end of four years, he went to Portland, where he remained until, in 1877, he received the appointment of Chaplain in charge of the State Prison at Ionia. He occupied many subordinate offices before entering the ministry. In 1836, when the land office was located at Ionia, he was detailed to carry from \$100,000 to \$150,000 to Detroit for safe-keeping. With a team of oxen and a wagon he forded the streams, picked his way through the heavy timbered land, and delivered the money safely. In the winters of 1848 and 1849, he was elected Chaplain of the House of Representatives. Although educated a Democrat, he joined the Republican party at its formation, and has since voted for its candidates. He was married, December 2, 1836, to Amanda, daughter of Judge Yeomans, of Ionia. She died in 1862, leaving five children. Two sons were in the army. The eldest, a brave and gallant soldier, was killed, while charging at the head of his company, before Petersburg, when Burnside blew up a fort there. Mr. Cornell married again, in December, 1863, Katie Mason, of Ripley, Chautauqua County, New York.

**CROSS, MORRIS J.**, Lawyer, of Grand Haven, was the son of Jesse and Margaret (Davis) Cross, and was born in Grantham, Sullivan County, New Hampshire, February 24, 1831. His grandfather was conspicuous in the Revolutionary War. His father was a Baptist clergyman, and had six children. He was a man of exceedingly fine personal appearance, and possessed great power and vigor. His ancestry were remarkable for fine physiques, longevity, and buoyancy of spirit. His early education was obtained, entirely, through his own exertions. He took a thorough literary and theological course of study, and attained proficiency in classical and scientific branches, of which he was decidedly fond. When about twenty-two years of age, he read law quite extensively, becoming familiar, in an unusual degree, with the laws of various civilized nations.



After completing his studies, he entered upon the work of the ministry. He preached for two years at Fisherville, New Hampshire, a beautiful village on the Contoocook River, which constituted the northern ward of the city of Concord, where he was loved by his people and esteemed by his associates. After about two years' strenuous labor, his health failed, and an hereditary pulmonary disease showed itself, which he succeeded in arresting, however, by physical exercise, including a system of gymnastics. In the fall of 1858, he accepted a call from the Presbyterian Church at Urbana, Champaign County, Ohio, where his services were highly appreciated. In the spring of 1860, he returned to Massachusetts, and was married, April 12, to Lucinda C. Noyes, a lady of culture, who died November 30, 1872. Her death was greatly mourned; her life had been filled with sunshine and beauty. Mr. Cross was next settled at Findlay, Ohio, over a thriving Presbyterian Church. After about four years, feeling that the pressure of the climate was injuring him, he decided to go farther West. Previous to his departure, he received a very handsome gold watch, suitably inscribed, from the people of his church, as a token of their love and gratitude. He removed to Grand Haven, Michigan, October 6, 1869, where he supplied the pulpit of the Presbyterian Church for a time, until failing health compelled him to resign the position. After a season of rest, he entered into partnership with Stephen L. Lowing, in the spring of 1872. They carried on an extensive law business, in which they are still engaged. This step was not taken without thought. Mr. Cross felt the responsibility of abandoning his ministerial work, but the state of his health compelled him to give up public preaching. He is a man whose integrity is beyond question. He has represented the Presbytery on several occasions at the General Assembly, and has taken an active part in all religious progress. In politics, he is a stanch Democrat. He has never solicited official position, and has held no offices except those connected with the educational interests of the country. He is a man of excellent social qualities, having an inexhaustible supply of humorous anecdotes and a flow of wit. He is remarkable for his indomitable will, and is an exemplary and honored citizen.

**C**UTLER, HON. DWIGHT, Lumber Manufacturer and Capitalist, was born in Amherst, Massachusetts, November 14, 1830, and was a son of Dr. Isaac G. and Nancy (Hastings) Cutler. Dr. Cutler was one of the most eminent physicians and surgeons of his day; and, as a matter of course, had an extensive practice that continued until his death, which occurred when the subject of this sketch was only four years of age. Mr. Hastings, his grandfather, was one of the first set-

tlers in Amherst. Mr. Cutler was educated in Williston Seminary, Easthampton, Massachusetts, and at Amherst, receiving a special course of instruction. When about eighteen years of age he removed to Grand Haven, Michigan, and went into the employ of Gilbert & Co., forwarding and commission merchants. After remaining in that capacity three years, he commenced business for himself, by buying out his employers' store and forwarding business, which he carried on for six years with success. During this period he purchased a number of vessels, both sail and steam, which were used in connection with his business. In 1860 Mr. Cutler commenced the lumber manufacturing business with Mr. Hunter Savidge, of Spring Lake,—a village two miles distant from Grand Haven,—buying a saw-mill, known as the old Hopkins' mill. Since then they have bought one mill, built another, and formed a stock company, with five hundred thousand dollars paid-up capital. The name of the firm is Cutler & Savidge Lumber Company; Mr. Savidge being President, and Mr. Cutler Treasurer. It is the largest lumber manufacturing firm in Western Michigan. They have handled upwards of forty million feet of lumber in one season, but average about thirty million feet annually. They have a large wholesale lumber-yard in Michigan City, Indiana. They ship their lumber to almost all parts of the United States, while their mills give employment to about two hundred men during most of the year. They own extensive tracts of fine land, tributary to Grand River. In 1872 Mr. Cutler erected the largest and finest hotel building in the State of Michigan. It stands on Washington street, in Grand Haven; is an ornament to the city, and is known abroad as a Grand Haven summer resort. It was named for himself, being called the Cutler House; and cost, including furniture, two hundred thousand dollars. The architecture of the building is beautiful, defying criticism; and the inner appointments are excellent. In 1870-71, Mr. Cutler was elected Mayor of the city, and has filled the office of School Trustee for nearly twenty years. He never aspired, however, to the honors of public position, having declined to accept any of the State or National offices his friends proffered him. In politics he is independent, voting for those whom he considers the best men. His religious views are embodied in the belief of the Unitarian Church, of which he is a member. He was married, February 16, 1858, to Miss Francis E. Slayton, of Stowe, Vermont. A family of five children have been born to them,—one son and four daughters. Mr. Cutler is a gentleman, respected and appreciated by all who know him. He is possessed of excellent judgment, irreproachable moral character, and fine business qualifications. During his first year in Michigan, he worked for fifty dollars and his board. He commenced business on an inconsiderable capital; and when, in 1860, he and

Mr. Savidge engaged in the lumber trade, their early experience qualified them for the success which attends their large and constantly increasing business. Mr. Cutler is now forty-seven years of age, and in the full enjoyment of health. For thirty years he has been a help toward building up the material interests of Grand Haven, and it is to be hoped that his life may long be spared to still further promote the prosperity of the city.

COOKE, REV. GEORGE W., of Grand Haven, Michigan, was born April 23, 1848, in Comstock, Kalamazoo County, Michigan. His parents were originally from the East. They gave him such school advantages, in his childhood, as a farming community afforded. After Mr. Cook was eighteen, he spent one year in the Preparatory Department of Olivet College, and three years at the Jefferson Liberal Institute. A portion of this time he was teaching in Hebron and Jefferson, and editing a school journal. He was engaged, one year, as Principal of the Public School at Rochester, Wisconsin, and then entered the Theological Seminary at Meadville, Pennsylvania. In 1872 he took charge of the Unitarian Church, at Sheboygan, Wisconsin; and, afterward, preached at Sharon, Darien, Elkhorn and Palmyra. In this missionary work he continued three years. He organized the Unitarian Society of Sharon, and what is now the Universalist Church of Elkhorn, and preached wherever he could obtain a hearing. To aid in this missionary work, he founded the *Liberal Worker* in 1874. This publication obtained a wide circulation among the Western Unitarians. In December, 1875, it was merged into the *Spectroscope*, of Milwaukee, of which Mr. Cooke continued associate editor as long as it was published. He has written for various newspapers on literary, social and religious topics. He is a frequent contributor to the *Grand Rapids Evening Post*, the *Inquirer*, the *Golden Age*, the *Herald of Health*, of New York, and the *New Covenant*, of Chicago. In February, 1876, he became pastor of the Unitarian Church at Grand Haven, Michigan, and has succeeded in building up a strong society. He is an interested student of the scientific literature of the times, and one of the few clergymen who accept evolution as the only true theory of the universe. He is largely imbued with the scientific theories of the day, but interprets them in the light of spiritual philosophy. In 1877 he delivered a course of lectures on the Bible; its origin, and the nature of its contents. In January, 1878, Mr. Cooke began a series of articles in *The Evolution*, of New York, on "The Evolution of Religion." The subjects treated were the origin and development of religious ideas; the origin

of Judaism and Christianity; the relations of the great religions to one another; the origin of morality, and the fundamental ideas of religion as viewed by science. The object of these essays is to show how modern thought and scholarship deal with the questions of religion, and to summarize the conclusions reached by the scientific and critical schools in treating such problems. They are also to appear in pamphlet form at once, and are to be put into a volume when completed. At about the same time Mr. Cooke assisted in starting the *Pamphlet Mission for Freedom and Fellowship in Religion*, a fortnightly publication of sermons and essays, of which he is one of the editors. Of his oft-repeated lectures on the origin of religious ideas, the *Grand Rapids Saturday Evening Post* says: "They are of great interest, and contain the results of earnest study and thought." The same paper again says: "He is a most diligent student, and as a careful and thorough thinker, speaker and writer, has made a good impression in our section." In a communication to the *Liberal Christian*, of New York, Rev. J. T. Sunderland, of Chicago, said, in giving an account of a conference held in Grand Haven, in July, 1876: "Few men in our liberal ranks in the Northwest have worked their way into higher and more general esteem, at least among us ministers, than George W. Cooke, now pastor of the Unitarian Church at Grand Haven. He came West immediately from the Meadville Divinity School, some four years ago, and plunged into hard missionary work; organizing a new society at Sharon, Wisconsin; preaching a great deal in Southern Wisconsin and Northern Illinois; often in places where Liberal Christianity had never been heard before; and finally starting and carrying on for a year or two,—with an amount of energy and success which were remarkable,—his paper, *The Liberal Worker*."

CLARK, HON. MERRILS H., Editor and Proprietor of the *Grand Rapids Daily and Weekly Democrat*, was born in North Almond, Alleghany County, New York, on the 2d of September, 1826. His parents, Lawrence and Lydia (Messenger) Clark, were natives of New York State, and, in 1810, settled in Alleghany County. His father was an active participant in the war of 1812. In 1835 the subject of this sketch removed with his parents to La Grange County, Indiana, and there remained, working on his father's farm, until he attained his thirteenth year. At that time, having a great desire to obtain an education, he was permitted to leave home. He went to White Pigeon, Michigan, and worked for his board, attending school at the branch of the Michigan University there located. Of this branch, Professor Samuel Newberry was principal; who, being



made acquainted with young Clark's eagerness to acquire an education, granted him his tuition free. He remained under these circumstances at White Pigeon three years, and then entered the office of the *White Pigeon Republican* to learn the printing business, remaining there two years. At the end of that time, he went to Ann Arbor, with the intention of finishing his course at the University. Subsequently, however, he determined to make himself master of the printing business, and entered a printing house, where he continued, working steadily, during the following eight years. He then married Miss Marilla L., daughter of John and Eleeta Monroe, of Ann Arbor, and decided to begin business on his own account, an opportunity having offered at Owosso, Shiawassee County. He went there and bought a printing press and the necessary materials with which to print a newspaper. Then, returning to Ann Arbor, he removed to Owosso with his wife, where, in June, 1847, he commenced the publication of the *Owosso Argus*, a Democratic weekly newspaper. The next year, he raised the name of General Lewis Cass as his nominee for President. He was very successful in business; and, in 1850, removed his office to Corunna, which had, meantime, been established as the county seat. Mr. Clark remained at Corunna until 1857, when, selling out his business at a fair price, he removed to Omaha, Nebraska. There he began, and continued for several years, the publication of the *Daily and Weekly Nebraskan*, the leading Democratic journal in the Territory, and the first daily paper published west of the Mississippi River above St. Joseph. While thus engaged, he obtained the public printing of the Territory, which he retained until after the inauguration of President Lincoln. During his residence of seven years at Omaha, Mr. Clark was twice elected a Representative from Douglas County to the Territorial Assembly; once as a Democrat, and again as a Union candidate. In 1863, in view of the fact that the existence of the Union was seriously threatened, he discarded the political principles previously advocated in his paper, and sustained the administration of President Lincoln in upholding the unity of the States against secession. The following year, being desirous of returning to Michigan, Mr. Clark sold out his business in Omaha, and removed, temporarily, to Detroit, and in the course of a few months, to Grand Rapids, where he became proprietor and editor of the *Daily and Weekly Democrat*, which he has since conducted. Under his management, from being an unimportant publication, it has become the leading Democratic journal of Western Michigan, second only to the *Detroit Free Press* in State influence and circulation. Connected for thirty years with the newspaper press,—twenty-three of those years with the press of Michigan,—Mr. Clark may be considered a veteran journalist, and truly a self-made man. By his press and pen,

he has aided largely in developing the material interests of the State. He is esteemed by his constituents, who are of the Democratic party, and is regarded as an able exponent of their political views.

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**D**AVIS, JOHN T., Real Estate Dealer and Capitalist, was the son of David and Esther (Evans) Davis, and was born in Carmarthen, Wales, August 1, 1821. He landed in America in 1842, after a severe voyage of nine weeks, in which, on three separate occasions, the ship was obliged to raise its signal of distress in order to obtain the necessities of life. His elementary education was obtained in Wales, where, at an early age, he displayed a business ability, which he has developed and successfully used. After his arrival in America, he spent about two years in Ohio, and then removed to Grand Rapids, Michigan, where he remained a year and six months. In 1846 he removed to Grand Haven, where he has since carried on an extensive real estate business. He has also been interested in a beautiful fruit-farm in the suburbs of the city. He has taken an active part in enterprises for public improvement, and has always contributed liberally to whatever tended to benefit the State or his fellow-men. He was married in Harrison, Lincoln County, Ohio, October 17, 1847, to Nancy Evans, who died May 7, 1871, leaving one son. Mr. Davis was again married, in March, 1874, to Maggie G. Owens, of Waukesha, Wisconsin. Between the years 1871 and 1874, he amassed, by constant industry, a considerable fortune. In 1872, after a prosperous voyage of nine days, Mr. Davis visited Wales, with his son, and made quite an extended tour of the British Isles. He is a sound Republican in politics. His religious views are liberal, pure, and rational. He is one of the oldest and most worthy Odd-Fellows in the State. He is keen, cautious, discriminating and scrupulously upright,—his integrity being beyond question. The vicissitudes of his life have left him with an unblemished character and a contented, happy disposition.

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**D**E BOE, JACOB, of Grand Haven, Michigan, was born in the Netherlands, Europe, April 7, 1838. He was the son of Jacob and Cornelia (Van Loo) De Boe. His family emigrated to America in 1847, and settled in Zeeland, Michigan. He attended school only three months; and, when fourteen years of age, began work at brick-laying. In 1860 he went to Holland, Michigan, and commenced learning the tanner's trade. At the beginning of the war of the Rebellion, he enlisted as a private, in Company D, 8th Michigan Infantry, and participated in twenty-one different engage-

ments. He was honorably discharged October, 2, 1864, and soon after settled in Grand Haven. He was Deputy Clerk there for twelve years. When Grand Haven became a city, in 1867, he was chosen its first City Treasurer. In 1877 he was elected Register of Deeds for Ottawa County. Mr. De Boe is a supporter of the Republican party. May 6, 1856, he married Maria Quintus, of Grand Rapids. They have had three children, two of whom are living.

**D**E CAMP, WILLIAM HENRY, Grand Rapids, is a native of Auburn, New York, where he was born on the 6th of November, 1825. His father is John C. De Camp, of Mount Morris, Livingston County, New York. His mother is Sarah, daughter of William Miller, of Auburn, New York. His academic education was acquired at Munda, New York. In 1843 he began the study of medicine in the office of Dr. Lewis G. Ferris, and afterward continued his studies with Dr. C. C. Chaffee, of Munda. He attended his first course of lectures during the winter of 1843-44, at Geneva Medical College; a second course in the Medical Department of the University of New York; and another course at Geneva, where he graduated in February, 1846. He at once entered upon the practice of his profession, in Grove Center, Alleghany County, New York. After remaining there four years, he went to Hunt's Hollow, Livingston County, at which place he also continued four years. In June, 1854, on account of ill-health, Dr. De Camp sold out his practice, and came to Grand Rapids, Michigan, where he opened a drug store. On the 25th of September, 1857, his store, with a number of other buildings, was burned, and he lost all his possessions, except the clothes he wore and an old clock that happened to be at the watch-maker's for repairs. A few months later, Dr. De Camp resumed his medical practice, which soon became quite large, and continued to increase, until the breaking out of the Rebellion. He was then commissioned Surgeon of the 1st Michigan Regiment of Engineers and Mechanics. He remained in this position for three years, when he was mustered out of service, with his regiment, at Atlanta, Georgia, his term having expired. From October 10, 1862, until February 10, 1863, Dr. De Camp was Medical Director at Harrodsburg, Kentucky. With the exception of this time, and a furlough of twenty days, he was not absent from his regiment during the entire term of service. After his discharge from the army, he immediately returned to Grand Rapids, resuming the practice of his profession, making surgery a specialty. Dr. De Camp has written a number of papers for the Michigan State Society, and for the medical journals. Among these, was a paper introducing a new method of reducing dislocation of the

elbow joint. He has made several important discoveries known to physicians. He is a member of the Grand Rapids Medical and Surgical Society; the Michigan State Medical Society, in both of which he has filled the position of President; and also a member of the American Medical Association. He was one of the originators of the Kent Scientific Institute, of Grand Rapids, and has been elected a member of several other scientific societies. Among these are the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the Academy of Natural Sciences, at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. On the 4th of November, 1846, he was married to Miss Emeline C. Griffith, daughter of Shipman Griffith, of Wyoming County, New York. Outside of his profession, Dr. De Camp has directed his scientific researches toward conchology, mineralogy, botany and ornithology; in which departments his collection is, perhaps, the finest private one in the State of Michigan.

**D**ELLENBAUGH, CHARLES C., Physician and Surgeon, of Portland, was born at Morristown, Belmont County, Ohio, September 4, 1834. His father, Samuel Dellenbaugh, still a prominent physician of Buffalo, New York, was a native of Switzerland. His mother, Elizabeth (Smith) Dellenbaugh, was born in Virginia, and is still living at Buffalo. Charles C., with his parents, left Morristown in 1848, and resided in various places, until they settled in Buffalo, in 1854. From his father he inherited a taste for the medical profession which, in his early manhood, he decided to adopt. He had received a fair education in the common schools, principally in Alleghany City; and, in 1855, entered the Medical Department of the University of Michigan. After studying there one year, he returned to Buffalo, and continued his studies in Buffalo University during the year 1856. In 1857 he was honored by an appointment of House Physician in the Erie County Hospital, which he resigned after one year. He graduated in medicine and surgery in 1859 and 1860. He commenced practice at Alliance, Ohio, where he remained but a short time. He then went to Buffalo, New York, where he remained until 1863. In that year he decided to carry out a long formed resolution to seek his fortune in the West. After trying in succession, Detroit and Saginaw, he finally settled in Westphalia, Clinton County, Michigan, where he practiced successfully thirteen years. He removed to Portland, Ionia County, in 1876. In Westphalia, he was elected Supervisor, and held the position one term. He is a member of the State Medical Society and also of the Clinton County Medical Society. He has been a Mason since 1866, and has passed through the blue lodge. His professional duties, however, debar him from taking a very active part in the



organization. Although not actually connected with the Church, he has strong religious convictions. Family ties incline him to Presbyterianism, although he has a seat in the Baptist Church. Mr. Dellenbaugh was married, October 4, 1866, to Mary M. Hill, daughter of George Hill, deceased, of Portland, who was a man of special prominence in Masonic circles. They have four children. As a physician and surgeon, Mr. Dellenbaugh ranks among the first in the profession. His practice is not confined to Portland, but extends over a large part of the adjoining counties. He is a man of eminent social characteristics, and is much appreciated for his general attainments and reliable judgment. He is, at present, a member of the village council.

**D**ODGE, MARTIN, of Montague, was born in Syracuse, New York, March 19, 1816, and early removed, with his father, to Erie County, in the same State. He remained there until he was twenty-one years of age, attending the common school, and learning the trade of wool carding and cloth dressing. In January, 1836, he was bound out to serve in the Patriot war; and, after remaining two months, was discharged on account of having been exposed to the small-pox. On his return home, he worked at his trade until the following fall. The next spring, he emigrated to the West, and settled in Niles, Michigan, where he remained one year. He then went to Chicago, and engaged in a lumber-yard, where he remained two years. In 1840, in connection with J. W. Steel, he erected a building on Clark street, in Chicago, and opened a restaurant. After continuing this business about two years, he sold out to his partner, and commenced business on the same street, opposite the old Sherman House. This he continued about four years. He then sold out, and built a dwelling on Quincy street, where he lived two years. At the end of that time, in company with Mr. William R. Irish, he leased the old Great Western Hotel, on the corner of Randolph and Canal streets, and changed its name to the Commercial Hotel. He remained, as proprietor, three years, and his lease had about expired, when the house was entirely destroyed by fire. By this misfortune, he lost everything, as the company in which he was insured proved insolvent. He then rented Myrick's Hotel and Stock-yards, of which he had sole charge for two years. At the end of that time, in May, 1856, he purchased the unexpired two years' lease of the old Sherman House, with its furniture and good-will, for \$34,000. At that time, this house was one of the leading hotels in the city; and its patronage, during the time that Mr. Dodge was proprietor, was equal to that of any other. On the expiration of his lease, in the spring of 1859, he opened

the English House, on Twenty-second street, near the Michigan Southern stock-yards, and carried it on about six months. He then removed to Niles, Michigan, but remained there only a short time. Returning to Chicago, he opened the Michigan Southern Hotel, which had been partially destroyed by fire, and had just been rebuilt. After keeping this hotel two years, he sold out his interest and retired from business, on account of ill health. He remained in Chicago until the breaking out of the war, and then removed to Niles, Michigan, where he remained until its close. He then removed to Benton Harbor, at the mouth of the St. Joseph River, and kept the American Hotel two or three years. In 1872 he removed to Whitehall, Muskegon County, Michigan, and purchased the lease and furniture of the Cosmopolitan Hotel. After being proprietor of this house about three years, he closed it, and removed to a private residence, where he remained until November, 1875. At that time, he moved to Montague, on the opposite side of the river, and opened the Franklin House, a new and elegant hotel, which had just been completed. He furnished the house throughout in a style which is seldom seen in a hotel in much larger towns. This hotel is conducted under the firm name of M. Dodge & Son, and is one of the best kept in Western Michigan. Mr. Dodge was married, April 8, 1848, to Fanny Elizabeth Russell. They have had ten children, five of whom, two sons and three daughters, are living.

**D**EMING, DR. DAVID EBENEZER, Plainwell, was born in the town of Carnish, New Hampshire, June 14, 1796. His father, William Deming, was a farmer, and a native of Massachusetts; his mother, Sarah ———, came from Connecticut. Through the intimate friendship and advice of their family physician, Mr. Deming, at an early age, decided to study medicine. He commenced his education in the common schools of his native town, and, at the age of twenty-four, attended the Castleton Medical School of Vermont, and then the Vermont University, at Burlington, from which he graduated in 1823. He commenced the practice of medicine in the town of Hinesburg, Vermont, where he continued his labors successfully for ten years. He was married, January 22, 1829, to Miss Electa L. Eldredge, daughter of John M. Eldredge, attorney-at-law. In 1833, in a conversation with Mr. H. Burnham, a Western farmer, his attention was directed to the Western States; and, in the same year, he removed to Michigan. He spent a few days at Detroit, resting, and waiting the arrival of his brother, C. P. Deming, and then resumed his journey, traveling, by teams, to Kalamazoo. The journey from Burlington, Vermont, to Detroit, Michigan, had occupied eighteen days, and had cost, for

three grown persons and two children, thirty dollars and fifty cents. Mr. Deming was the first white settler in Cooper Township, his nearest neighbor being five miles distant. Besides working his farm, he continued the practice of medicine for a number of years, often being called in consultation with younger physicians. In 1871 he removed to the village of Plainwell, in Allegan County, where he now resides, realizing the dreams of his early life in successful farming. In 1838 Mr. Deming was elected the first Supervisor of Cooper Township, which office, with that of Commissioner, he held for several years. In 1840 he was elected to the State Senate for two years. He united with the Congregational Church in 1819, and has been an active member, contributing freely to its support. Doctor Deming is now in his eighty-second year. He is in excellent health, and still gives evidence of many years of usefulness.

**D**URFEE, ALLEN, Furnishing Undertaker, of Grand Rapids, was born in Palmyra, Wayne County, New York, January 5, 1829. His parents were William and Parmelia (Chase) Durfee. His father, a native of Palmyra, was born May 3, 1800, and was engaged in farming and milling until his death. His mother's family emigrated from Connecticut at a very early day, and settled in New York, where she was born, February 7, 1806. Allen Durfee attended the common schools of his native place; and, in his eighteenth year, entered an academy, where he studied diligently for a time. He was then employed in milling, and in working on his father's farm, until the fall of 1853. At that time he married Miss Phebe B. Thayer, a native of Palmyra, New York, and removed to Michigan. He bought a farm near the city of Grand Rapids, on which he resided fifteen years, during which time he was elected to several township offices. He finally purchased property, and removed to the city of Grand Rapids. In June, 1869, he engaged in business with J. H. Farwell, a leading undertaker of the city, with whom he remained until the fall of 1871. He then commenced business on his own account, and has carried it on with success until the present time. He was one of the first undertakers in the country to investigate and adopt Professor Crane's process of embalming bodies, and has found it of inestimable value. In the year 1874, he united with the Independent Order of Odd-Fellows, and has passed all the chairs in the subordinate lodges. He is also a member of the Knights of Honor, and Ancient Order of United Workmen. Mr. Durfee belongs to the Congregational Church, and is one of its earnest supporters. In politics he is a Republican. Mr. Durfee is tall, and of commanding presence; temperate in all his

habits; of a genial nature; kind and affectionate in his family, and has a warm heart and generous hand for all in real need. These qualities, together with his unswerving integrity in all his business affairs, secure for him the confidence and esteem of all classes in the community in which he resides.

**D**ONELSON, CHARLES PARK, Physician and Surgeon, of Muskegon, was born in Flint, Michigan, April 11, 1848, and is the son of Abel S. and Maria (Jennings) Donelson. Three of his uncles are Methodist Episcopal clergymen,—Park S. Donelson, D.D., of the Ohio Wesleyan Female College, of Delaware, being one of the number. After taking a literary course in the High School at Flint, he entered the Ohio Wesleyan University, at Delaware, from which he graduated in 1867. Soon after, he went to Cincinnati, and engaged as book-keeper for the firm of Crane, Breed & Co. In 1868 he returned home, and taught in the High School at Flint two years. Having a desire to become a physician, he went to Ann Arbor, and entered the University of Michigan. He attended two courses of lectures, and graduated in 1872. He then went to Brooklyn, New York, and graduated from the Long Island College Hospital. Returning to Michigan, he settled in Muskegon, where he has a lucrative practice. Dr. Donelson was married, in March, 1873, to Miss Mary A. Johnson, daughter of Tobias Johnson, of Kalamazoo, an architect of considerable note. Dr. Donelson is a man of fine physique, temperate and regular habits, which were formed early, and have always been adhered to.

**D**ILLEY, JOSIAH, of Portland, Ionia County, was born in Soham, County of Cambridge, England, January 5, 1835. His parents emigrated to America in 1852, and settled in Ontario County, New York, where they remained until 1855. They then went to Michigan, and settled on unbroken land in Eaton County, where they still reside, wealthy farmers. Josiah Dilley obtained his education almost entirely through his own efforts. Upon moving to Michigan, in 1854, he bought one hundred and sixty acres of uncultivated land, and built a log house, in which he lived until 1866. He then erected the handsome residence in which he now resides. In 1860 he began the manufacture of staves, which he has since carried on extensively. He ships from one thousand to fifteen hundred car-loads a year, principally to New York for the foreign market, but also to Boston and New Bedford, Massachusetts. Mr. Dilley cast his first vote for James Buchanan, and



and has always been a strong supporter of the Democratic party. He has taken an active part in all public enterprises connected with the growth of the city of Portland, and has contributed largely toward the building of railroads and churches. He has never been willing to accept public office, though often urged to do so. He was married, August 20, 1853, in Manchester, Ontario County, New York, to Catherine Favor, who was born in New York soon after her parents emigrated from Paris, France. They have had six children,—four sons and two daughters,—all of whom are living. Mr. Dilley has been one of the most successful business men of Ionia County.

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**EDSELL, WILSON C.**, of Otsego, Michigan, was born in Bradford County, Pennsylvania, July 8, 1814. His parents, of German-American descent, were natives of New York and Connecticut, and brought up their children on a farm in habits of thrift and industry. Mr. Edsell's early school advantages were quite limited, but his thoughtfulness and close observation of men and things made amends for other deficiencies. When he reached his majority, he was master of the carpenter and joiner's trade, to which he had been apprenticed three years. He started West; and, on his way, lingered at Cleveland, where he received his first glimpse of a steamboat. He spent some years perfecting himself in his trade, in the employ of George Lawton, of Sandusky, Ohio; and assisted in erecting some of the finest flour-mills in Northern Ohio. He gained the reputation of a faithful, competent workman, and spent his leisure in mastering "Nicholson's Operative Mechanics," Chemistry, Natural Philosophy, Drawing and History. In 1839 he built a fine flour-mill at Monroeville. In the following year he married Julia Ann Clache, and, soon after, they together entered Oberlin College, and took a four years' course. In 1844 they joined a colony of thirty persons who emigrated from Oberlin to Olivet, then an unbroken wilderness, for the purpose of establishing a similar college in that place. Twelve hundred acres of land were purchased for a college, mill, and other purposes; and Mr. Edsell, then Secretary and Trustee, pushed forward the work of establishing Olivet College, amid many discouragements, until it had gained a firm hold upon the confidence of the people. Its admirable discipline and superior educational advantages now render it a power for good. Much of its early success was due to the self-sacrifice and untiring energy of its first Secretary. Five years later, he removed to Otsego, where his energy and ability were soon recognized. He was admitted to practice in all the State Courts; was Justice of the Peace sixteen years; Trustee of the State Insane Asylum; and

was twice elected State Senator, which position he now holds. In company with H. N. Peck, he established the first banking house of Otsego, in 1869. In 1873 he was admitted to practice in the United States Courts, thus proving that, though in advanced years, he is both aggressive and progressive. Industry and integrity have enabled him to prosper in whatever work he has undertaken; he is now one of the most wealthy real estate owners in Allegan County. He has clung, with persistence, to the convictions and training of his early years. He has always strenuously advocated temperance principles, and abstained from the use of tobacco. An anti-slavery worker and an honest partisan, he aided in the organization and establishment of the Republican party. He has long been a zealous Christian, and, for twenty years, superintendent of the Sabbath School connected with the Congregational Church. He is dignified in his deportment, attractive in his personal appearance, social in his manners, strong in his friendship, and kind to all. His wife died in 1866; the following year he married Mrs. Clara Hughes, of Kalamazoo.

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**ELDRED, ANDREW J.**, of Ionia, Methodist Clergyman, was born in Catskill, New York, March 20, 1825. His parents were Mumford and Jane (Whittaker) Eldred. His father, an eminent politician, was a native of Vermont; and his mother, of Catskill, New York. He received his primary education in Allegan and Kalamazoo counties, Michigan, and spent one year at Kalamazoo Branch University, when Dr. Stone was principal. At the end of that time, he was influenced, by Dr. Sprague, to enter the ministry; and subsequently, at the early age of twenty, accepted a pastoral charge at Niles, Michigan. He remained there five years, and then accepted a charge at Grand Rapids, where he also remained five years. While there, he built the Division Street Church, which stands to-day as a monument to his exertions. He also had a charge at Adrian, two years; at Detroit, two years, and at Albion, two years; and was engaged in district work, as Presiding Elder, nine years. In 1876 he was appointed by the Conference to the pastorate at Ionia, Michigan, where he is now stationed. Upon the breaking out of the war, he entered the army, and was, for two years, Chaplain of a regiment of Michigan Infantry. He went to the front; and, at the battle of Shiloh, or Pittsburgh Landing, acted with great gallantry. He was with his regiment during the siege of Vicksburg, and until it reached Duvall's Bluff, Arkansas, September 1, 1863, on its way to Little Rock. He then resigned, not being able to bear the hardships of a soldier's life at the front. He could not shirk responsibility; and, while in the

army, discharged faithfully the duties of his office, no matter what the personal sacrifice. He was more to his regiment than a mere Chaplain; he was the adviser and friend of its men and officers. His well-known bravery and practical common-sense made his counsel valuable, and his presence always welcome. He was popular with all classes, and was highly esteemed, both as a man and officer. His eloquence was known throughout the army; and, wherever he preached, it required no effort to secure a congregation; officers and men flocked to hear him, and all regretted the necessity which took him from them. He is endowed with fine social qualities, and does not hesitate to join in a hearty laugh. He is a natural leader of men; and, had his health permitted, would probably have risen to a high command in the army. He seemed to be happiest when addressing a large audience, such as he had at Helena, Arkansas, August 1, 1863; it was a day of thanksgiving, appointed by President Lincoln, and his audience numbered several thousand soldiers; his address was masterly, and filled many Michigan men with pride and happiness. Mr. Eldred was extremely attentive to the sick, and discharged all his duties in that kind, unostentatious manner which is so pleasing. He has been connected with the society of Free Masons since 1847, and has taken all the degrees up to knighthood. In politics, he is a Democrat; his ideal statesman was Stephen A. Douglas. He has sustained an effective relation to the conference throughout his whole career, and has always been acceptable to the people among whom he has labored. As we have shown, he has many excellent qualities of mind and heart. His sermons are plain and practical, and generally delivered with great power. In 1848 Mr. Eldred was married to Miss Elizabeth D'Mott. They have a family of six children, three of whom—two sons and one daughter—are living.

**ERWIN, DAVID D.**, Lawyer, Muskegon, was born near Rushville, Schuyler County, Illinois. He is a grandson of one of the Revolutionary patriots, General David Erwin, who was with General Washington when he crossed the Delaware. His great-grandfather emigrated to this country, from Ireland, in 1740. Mr. Erwin commenced his education at Rushville; attended the Wesleyan University, Bloomington, Illinois; and entered the office of the County Clerk of Schuyler County, Illinois, in 1864. He was Deputy in the Circuit Court of the same county, until May, 1867; when he went to Muskegon, and became Deputy Clerk of that county. In 1869 he began the study of law with Gray, Smith & Nims. He was admitted to the bar in 1870, and is now a member of the well-known firm of

Smith, Nims & Erwin. He has held the positions of Recorder of Muskegon; member of the School Board; and Receiver of the Chicago, Saginaw and Canada Railroad. He is a member of the Democratic party. Mr. Erwin was married, November 21, 1870, to Miss Florence Tillotson, formerly of Glenn's Falls, New York.

**FOX, COLONEL PERRIN V.**, State Agent of the Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company, of Newark, N. J., was born at Antwerp, Jefferson County, New York, December 3, 1821. His father, Bryan Fox, was born at Hebron, Connecticut, but most of his early life was spent on a farm, in Rutland County, Vermont. Before the war of 1812 he settled in Antwerp, Jefferson County, New York. He was Captain of a militia company in the said war, and, for services rendered, received a pension. In 1816 he returned to Rutland, Vermont, and married Hannah Shepard. The next day they started for their new home, to encounter the hardships incident to clearing a farm in the forest. In the autumn of 1822, their house was burned, with all their winter stores, the family barely escaping with their lives. About this time, the inducements made to settlers on the "Holland Purchase," caused a large emigration thither. In 1824, a new house was found in Niagara County, near Lockport. From this place, the subject of this sketch dates his earliest recollections,—among which is the "sickly season," so called, when there were not well persons enough to take proper care of the sick. In his eleventh year, at the solicitation of a distant relative, he was permitted to leave home, and lived ten years on a farm near Buffalo, becoming an expert in all kinds of farm labor. By close application to study at home, in the evening; at the district schools, about three months each year; and during one term at the Hamburg Academy; he became qualified to teach. After leaving the farm, he learned the trade of carpenter and joiner, which he followed in summer, and taught school in winter. He also went to an architectural school, and learned to design as well as to execute such work as the wants of the country demanded. In 1846 he married Louisa M., eldest daughter of Philo Newton, and settled in Medina, New York. After teaching two years, continuously, he became permanently engaged in building and mechanical operations. In January, 1852, he went to California, and spent over a year in digging gold, with moderate success. He put up a quartz-mill and other buildings for the Agua Tria Quartz Mining Company. He also designed a Court House for Mariposa County, and, taking a partner, contracted for and built it. Complications, arising from unconstitutional legislative enactment, came near preventing the payment of over \$8,000



of the sum contracted for, and made it necessary for him to stay there until it could be adjusted. In the meantime, he was constantly employed in building for others. Before returning home, he was one of a pleasant party of nine to spend a week in the Yosemite Valley,—the second party to visit it after its discovery. In January, 1856, he arrived at his home, after an absence of four years, lacking ten days. Being desirous of visiting the Western States, early in the following spring he went to Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, and Michigan. After a careful investigation of the respective advantages of the places visited, he decided to make Grand Rapids, Michigan, his future home. He returned to Medina, and completed arrangements to move there in July following. From that time to 1861 he was actively engaged in building, and was regarded as a thorough mechanic. At the commencement of the Southern Rebellion, he joined heartily with those who said “It *must* be crushed,” but did not think his services would be needed in the field until the first battle of Bull Run. About this time four companies were being recruited in Michigan for Colonel Wilson’s Regiment of Engineers (erroneously called Fusileers, Sappers, Miners, etc.) at Chicago, Ill. To give these companies to the credit of Michigan, he, with Messrs. W. L. Coffinberry, James Sligh, and Baker Borden, went to the office of William P. Innes, now General Engineer of the Amboy and Lansing Railroad, and requested him to telegraph to the War Department, in his official position, asking if a regiment like Colonel Wilson’s would be accepted from Michigan. The answer was: “Yes, subject to the approval of the Governor.” Governor Blair authorized Colonel Innes to raise such a regiment, to which he gave the name “First Regiment of Michigan Engineers and Mechanics.” Mr. Fox raised a company for the regiment and received a commission as Captain, ranking fourth (D), September 12, 1861. The Colonel reported for duty to General Buell, at Louisville, Kentucky. The regiment was divided into four detachments, and assigned to the commands of Generals McCook, Thomas, Nelson and Mitchell. Companies D, F, and G, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Hunton, were with General George H. Thomas, during the campaign to Mill Springs, and, for their efficient services, were highly commended by him. Very much of the designing and superintendence of the construction of bridges, boats, etc., was entrusted to Captain Fox, because of his peculiar qualification for making a success of whatever he undertook, and his ability to improvise, from such materials as could be obtained, the means to secure the object sought in the shortest time. It would be impossible, in the space allowed in these columns, to give the details of his services, as the army advanced from Nashville to Shiloh and Corinth, thence to Huntsville, rebuilding the railroad bridges at Bear Creek, Tuscumbia, etc., and finally to Stevenson, where

they built pontoon boats. When General Bragg’s flank movement caused General Buell to march back to Nashville and Louisville, the Michigan Engineers rebuilt the bridges destroyed on the Louisville and Nashville Railroad in Morgan’s raid. From Louisville they went to Frankfort, Perryville and Crab Orchard, where the pursuit of Bragg was abandoned, and they returned with the army to Nashville. General Rosecrans, relieving General Buell, made active preparations for an onward movement. The Engineers were ordered to rebuild the bridges on Mill Creek, destroyed by the rebels, (twelve in number), get out ties and relay the track, which had been torn up and the rails destroyed much of the way to Murfreesboro. The day before the battle of Stone River, Colonel Innes was ordered to move his command to Lavergne, and await orders. The disaster to the right wing, under General McCook, enabled the rebel cavalry to get to the rear, burn the supply-train returning to Nashville, and attack the Michigan Engineers, protected by defenses hastily prepared. With less than four hundred effective men (some being under arrest at Nashville for insubordination, on account of not being paid, etc.), they withstood repeated charges from Wheeler and Wheaton’s cavalry, numbering about three thousand, who, in the intervals, kept up a vigorous fire with artillery and sharpshooters, under cover of old buildings within range. A flag was sent in, with a demand for “immediate and unconditional surrender,” soon followed by a second, to “hurry up,” and a third, asking permission to “bury their dead and care for their wounded.” They were not permitted, however, to come within range of the Engineers’ Springfield rifles and Colt’s six-shooters, used by Company A, of the 4th Michigan Cavalry, who had come to assist the Engineers. At dark, Colonel Burke, with the 10th Ohio, came, and during the night, the enemy retired. For several weeks the Engineers were employed on the fortifications, magazines and storehouses at Murfreesboro. As the army advanced, the Engineers rebuilt the bridges on the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad. The one at Elk River, four hundred and fifty feet long, and over fifty feet high, was completed within eight days, and from timber standing in the woods, (estimated by Chief-Engineer General Norton, to require six weeks). After the completion of the pontoon and part trestle bridge, at Bridgeport, Captain Fox was ordered to go to Chattanooga, with companies D and K, and report for duty. During the battle of Chickamauga, he gathered up and repaired all the casks that could be found, filled them with water, and sent them to the battle-field, and assisted the Pioneers in building a trestle bridge across the Tennessee River. The last day of the battle he was ordered by General Rosecrans to take such materials as could be found and make boats for a pontoon bridge as soon as possible, and ordered up another company of Engineers

from the regiment. The rebels had procured a quantity of timber, near Chattanooga, for a railroad bridge at Whiteside. Much of it was six by twelve inches, and, by sawing twice, gave three planks; but, being short, the boats had to be of unusual form, and a new arrangement made for securing the planks, by which a distance, equal to the width of a boat, was saved in the length of the balk, (stringers). The plan of the boats being disapproved by General Norton, Chief-Engineer, it was gratifying to be permitted by General Rosecrans to demonstrate their practicability, which was accomplished, and admitted by all, including General Norton. General Rosecrans then ordered the two saw-mills to be turned over to Captain Fox's command, and other boats to be built of such fashion as his judgment dictated. The mills were at once repaired, and pine timber cut from the surrounding hills, and hauled to the river where it was easily taken into the mills and sawed. Nails were brought from Bridgeport by the couriers bearing dispatches, and, before General Hooker could get to the relief of the Army of the Cumberland, fifty boats, with all the necessary equipments for a bridge at Brown's Ferry, were in readiness. In the meantime, General Rosecrans was relieved by General George H. Thomas, and General W. F. Smith (Baldy) took charge of the Engineer Department. The plan devised to connect with General Hooker, who was to advance from Bridgeport, on the south side of the river, was successfully executed as follows: The 18th Ohio (Colonel Stanley) manned the boats, which took General Hazen's brigade, and in the night, floated silently with the current, near the right bank of the river, past the rebel pickets, about six miles, to Brown's Ferry, when they crossed over and landed, driving back the pickets. The boats immediately recrossed and took over General Turchin's brigade,—the whole force holding the hills. Captain Fox, with his train, moved up before sunrise, and commenced to lay the bridge, under fire from the enemy's artillery, assisted by a detail of one hundred men from the 21st Michigan Infantry. In about six hours the bridge,—nine hundred feet long,—was completed, and General Whitaker's brigade crossed over and united with General Hooker's command. The importance of the expedition is indicated in

[General Order No. 265.]

"HEAD-QUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND, }  
"CHATTANOOGA, TENN., November 7, 1863. }

"The recent movements resulting in the establishment of a new and short line of communication with Bridgeport, and the possession of the Tennessee River, were of so brilliant a character as to deserve special notice. The skill and cool gallantry of the officers and men composing the expedition, under Brigadier William F. Smith, Chief-Engineer, consisting of the brigades of Brigadier-Generals Turchin and Hazen, the boat parties, under Colonel Stanley, 18th Ohio Volunteers, and the Pontooners, under Captain Fox, Michigan Engineers and Mechanics, in effecting a permanent lodgment on

the south side of the river, at Brown's Ferry, deserve the highest praise. The column under Major-General Hooker, which took possession of the line from Bridgeport to the foot of Lookout Mountain, deserves great credit for their brilliant success, in driving the enemy from every position which they attacked. The bayonet charge, made by the troops of General Howard, up a steep and difficult hill over two hundred feet high, completely routing the enemy and driving him from his barricades on its top, and the repulse, by General Geary's command, of greatly superior numbers, who attempted to surprise him, will rank among the most distinguished feats of arms of this war.

"By command of Major-General George H. Thomas.

"C. GODDARD,

"Assistant Adjutant-General."

Captain Fox was instructed to continue his work of building boats, and another company of Engineers was ordered to report to him. The 13th, 21st, and 22d Regiments of Michigan Infantry were detailed to assist in getting ready for aggressive movements when General Sherman should arrive. Nearly the same strategy was used by General Sherman in crossing the Tennessee River, below the South Chickamauga, as at Brown's Ferry, which was accomplished the night before the battle of Lookout Mountain. Captain Fox laid the bridge across the Chickamauga, and the Pioneers laid one across the Tennessee, during the fight of Hooker in the clouds of Lookout Mountain. The next day, Captain Fox laid another bridge across the Tennessee, at Chattanooga, assisted by the 22d Michigan Volunteers, commanded by Colonel Dean, who had been in charge of the train for four days, with only such rest as could be had in bivouac. This day closed the ever memorable battle of Lookout Mountain and Mission Ridge, so beautifully described by Taylor and others. After this battle, active operations were suspended and details were sent home to recruit for the regiments whose ranks had been so fearfully depleted. The Michigan Engineers went into the field with ten companies, of one hundred men each,—they were entitled to the regular organizations, twelve companies of one hundred and fifty men each,—and Captain Fox was ordered to take charge of a detail of three officers and twenty-one enlisted men, proceed to Michigan, and recruit for the Engineers. He distributed his force, and his plans were so well conceived and vigorously executed, that the requisite number (over nine hundred) were secured within four weeks—more than half of them at Grand Rapids and vicinity. An order was issued by Colonel Hill, Chief of the Recruiting Service, requiring recruits for the Michigan Engineers to go to Fort Wayne, and be mustered by a regular army officer. This order Captain Fox resisted, and secured its revocation. As soon as the recruits could be clothed and paid, they were sent to the regiment, which was filled to the maximum, and gave to it two new Majors, of which Captain Fox was one, his commission being dated December 15, 1863. He was



assigned to the command of a battalion, and placed in charge of building block-houses, to guard the bridges between Murfreesboro and Bridgeport. April 18, 1864, Engineer Order No. 15 placed Major Fox in charge of the defenses at Stevenson, Alabama, with two companies of Engineers and details from the commandant of the post. August 12, 1864, he was relieved from duty at Stevenson, to accept the position, tendered by General Thomas, of First Major in the 1st United States Veteran Volunteer Engineers, organized by authority of the War Department, of veterans who had served in the Engineer or Pioneer departments. Colonel William E. Merrill and Lieutenant-Colonel H. C. Wharton, being graduates at West Point, and Chief-Engineer and Topographical Engineer of the Army of the Cumberland, were only occasionally with the regiment. Lieutenant-Colonel Wharton resigned, and Major Fox received from the War Department his commission as Lieutenant-Colonel, dated April 17, 1865. This position he held to the close of the war, being mustered out of service September 26, 1865. The head-quarters of the new regiment were at Chattanooga, and their service was on the fortifications, magazines, water-works, saw-mills, block-houses, bridges, barracks, and in the manufacture of the canvas pontoon boats for General Sherman's army in his march to the sea, as well as those needed by General Thomas' command. Among the evidences of personal favors from General Thomas to Colonel Fox is the recommendation of his son, P. Newton Fox, as cadet at West Point; but, as there was no vacancy in the *at large* list, it was not secured. After his return from the South, not desiring to be idle, Colonel Fox accepted a place with J. S. Crosby & Son, State Agents of the Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company, as solicitor. Finding that his success was better than he dared to hope, he accepted an offer to go to Pittsburg, where he remained nearly one year, meeting with marked success. The company then proffered him the State agency of Michigan, in place of the Messrs. Crosby, whose engagements in real estate and fire insurance occupied most of their time. He entered upon his duties as State agent, in June, 1867, and has continued there to the present time. By constant application to his duties, he has avoided any entanglements, and the company has lost nothing by error or complications. At the close of the war, he was brevetted Colonel, for meritorious services. Colonel Fox is a member of the Michigan Sovereign Grand Consistory, Ancient Accepted Scottish Right and Deuchar Commandery of Knights Templar. Colonel Fox is tall, strongly framed, and has regular, expressive features. He is strong in his convictions, and allows no consideration of convenience or profit to swerve him from a course which he believes to be right. His business affairs are characterized by punctuality, accuracy, and system. He is a genial companion and a good conversa-

tionalist, having a store of anecdote and incident. He is a self-made man of strong impulses; public-spirited, free-hearted, and open-handed.

**F**RALICK, HON. HENRY, Grand Rapids, is a native of New York, and was born at Minden, Montgomery County, on the 9th of February, 1812. His father, Abraham Fralick, originally from Columbia County, New York, was a Captain in the War of 1812. His grandfather was one of a family of fifteen boys, eleven of whom were engaged in the Revolutionary War, in which four of them were killed; of the seven who returned, all were wounded. His mother was Mary E., daughter of Henry Keller, of Minden, New York, who was quite prominent in the community, having been a member of the Assembly and the Senate of the State. Mr. Fralick received his education in the district schools of his native county, and in Wayne County, where his father removed in 1824. The next three years were spent in assisting with the work on the farm; at the end of which time the family removed to Plymouth, Michigan. In 1829 he left home to seek his fortune; going to New York, he worked on a passenger boat of the Erie Canal for two years, becoming Captain of the boat the second year. In 1832, at New Bedford, Massachusetts, he shipped, as a hand before the mast, on a whaling vessel bound for the South Atlantic and Indian oceans. On this voyage he was gone two years, touching at a great many different ports, and bringing home a full cargo of whale oil and bone. Of this Mr. Fralick had a one hundred and fiftieth part for his services; this amounted to eighteen barrels of oil, which he sold for twenty-five dollars per barrel; and for his share of the whalebone, he realized about one hundred and fifty dollars. During his voyage Mr. Fralick had many exciting adventures; among which was the capture of a sperm-whale measuring sixteen feet in diameter and eighty-six feet in length. He was in the boat which fastened to the whale, and was towed in a circle at the rate of twenty miles an hour, a distance of about eighty miles; the whale then went down, taking a mile and a half of line before stopping. From the head of this whale they took about forty-eight barrels of oil; the whole fish yielding one hundred and ten barrels, and being worth nearly four thousand dollars. In 1834 Mr. Fralick shipped as third mate in a merchant vessel bound for Rio Janeiro and other ports of South America. He was gone on this voyage about seven months; after which he was engaged for another year on several coasting vessels, when he returned to Michigan. In 1836 he went to Detroit and became clerk at the Michigan Exchange,—the principal hotel in the city. Here he remained nine months, when he returned to Plymouth, and became clerk in the store



of Henry B. Holbrook. In 1838 he bought out Mr. Holbrook's stock of dry goods, and engaged in business for himself. In a few months he took in as partners Messrs. Austin and Penniman, the firm name being Austin, Fralick & Co.; and, after carrying on this business for three years, sold his interest, bought a lumber-mill, and built a flour-mill. After two years, he sold his mills to Mr. Austin, and again engaged in the sale of dry goods. In 1860 Mr. Fralick sold his store and goods. About a year and a half afterwards he came to Grand Rapids, where he bought out the interest of Mr. Aldrich in the bank of Ledyard & Aldrich; the firm name then became Ledyard & Fralick, and as such carried on a very successful banking business for about five years, when it was dissolved, and the City National Bank, of Grand Rapids, was organized; since which time Mr. Fralick has been a stockholder and director of this bank. Upon the firing on Fort Sumter, in 1861, he, with his brother and Mr. Penniman, raised, equipped, and filed the muster-roll of the first company in the State which enlisted for three years; and throughout the Rebellion he gave his energy and means to aid the Government in its vigorous prosecution of the war. In 1867 he again bought a stock of goods, and engaged in the mercantile trade for about two years, when he sold out to Mr. Remington, and began the real estate business, in which he still continues. In 1872 he, with others, formed the Grand Rapids Chair Company, with a capital of three hundred thousand dollars. Of this company he was Director for three years, and President two years; when, on account of press of other business, he resigned. He is a stockholder in the Grand Rapids Brush Company; and, at the present time, he is administrator of five different estates. He carries on the furniture business, giving employment to sixty men; and is also in the coal and wood business. Mr. Fralick has been Justice of the Peace, Supervisor, and County Auditor. He has served for thirty years as a school officer, and for the last four years as President of the Board of Education of the city of Grand Rapids. He is Trustee and the Treasurer of Olivet College, and has been a member of the Legislature for three different terms. In 1850 he was a member of the Constitutional Convention; and, in 1853, he was elected State Senator, and was appointed Chairman of the Select Committee on the Maine Law question. He presented to the Senate a petition, with one hundred thousand names annexed, in favor of the passage of the Maine Law in Michigan; and, in pursuance thereof, he presented a bill, which, after amendment, became a law. In 1871 he was appointed, by the Governor of the State, a member of the Relief Committee for the distribution of the funds sent to help those who were sufferers by the fire which had devastated the western part of Michigan. To the duties of this committee he devoted, gratuitously, seven months of his time; and the self-sacrificing labors that he put forth in behalf

of these sufferers can never be forgotten. In 1875 he was again appointed by the Governor one of the State Board of Managers to represent Michigan at the National Centennial Exposition, to the discharge of which duty he devoted about four months; and it was mainly owing to his continued efforts, that the State of Michigan owes the prominence which she held at the Exposition. In 1837, on the 23d of May, he was married to Corinna A., daughter of Henry Lyon, who was one of the first settlers of the town of Plymouth, Michigan; Mrs. Fralick died on the 16th of October, 1840. On the 22d of April, 1842, he married Jeanette Woodruff, of Plymouth, Michigan. They have four children,—one son and three daughters. Being highly regarded for the soundness of his judgment, and ever ready to help by his influence and counsel, he has held for five years the position of President of the Board of Trustees in the Congregational Church of Grand Rapids. In the public career of Mr. Fralick, every step is marked by conscientious effort, based on principle. Emphatically, he is a man of energy, sterling integrity, and unselfish generosity.



FERRY, MAJOR NOAH HENRY, late of Grand Haven, Michigan, was born on the Island of Mackinaw, April 30, 1831. He was the third son of the Rev. William M. and Amanda W. Ferry, who settled in Grand Haven, in 1834. His home influences were such as to develop in him a strong, thoroughly cultivated mind; an honorable, lovable character, and an unblemished life. His aunt, Mary A. White, later a teacher at Rockford Seminary, Illinois, had charge of his early training. He afterwards graduated at Bell's Commercial College, Chicago, with such credit that he was selected immediately to conduct one of the vacant departments of the institution. His business life was spent at White River, thirty miles north of Grand Haven, where he was associated with his brother, Edward P. Ferry. He laid out the village now called Montague, and was engaged as a lumber merchant. He possessed, by inheritance and education, qualities essential to his success in life. Peculiar energy, and force of character; a generous, loving heart, combined with a clear apprehension of the social and political duties of a citizen, won for him the hearty respect of all. In 1861 he was in the full tide of business success, and in the active control of large pecuniary interests; but, when it became evident that the country required the aid of every competent man in the field, to insure a prompt crushing out of treason, he tendered his services for any post in which he might be needed. Circumstances prevented his accepting the commission of Adjutant in the 3d Michigan Cavalry, which was offered





Eng<sup>d</sup> by Geo E. Peckham N York

Josh H. Ferry









*D. S. Freeman*

*Eng<sup>d</sup> by E. H. Hall & Sons 13 Barclay St N Y*



him. In the ensuing summer, the exigencies of the war demanded immediately increased enlistments; and, within twenty-four hours after the energetic call, he organized a company of one hundred and two men. August 14, 1862, he was commissioned Captain of Company F, 5th Michigan Cavalry. The regiment was ordered to Washington, and assigned to duty in the Army of the Potomac. He participated in active out-post duty, with his regiment; gained the confidence and respect of his superior officers, and the unwavering trust and love of his men. He was soon promoted to the rank of Major. On the 3d of July, 1863, when leading his battalion on the field of Gettysburg, with the inspiring word "Onward" he fell, shot through the head, instantly killed. A braver or more chivalrous soldier never fell on the field of battle. He shrunk from no duty, and permitted his men to incur no privation which he did not share. His body, wrapped in the flag he died defending, was taken to Grand Haven. A monument in the Grand Haven cemetery marks his grave.

**F**ISK, COLONEL JOSEPH, Allegan, was born May 22, 1810, in Franklin County, Massachusetts. His parents, Jasper and Hannah Fisk, were natives of the same place, but moved to Western New York in 1816, where his father engaged in farming, and as a contractor on the Erie Canal—the latter being an occupation that greatly influenced the business life of our subject. The ancestors of the family came from England. Colonel Fisk was educated in the public schools of Manchester, Ontario County. At the age of sixteen he united with the Baptist Church of that place, under the pastorate of Rev. Marion Allen, latterly so well known among Michigan men and pioneer ministers. About the same time he was apprenticed to learn the carpenter and joiner's trade. At twenty, he commenced business for himself. The Eagle Hotel, Rochester Bank, and many other prominent buildings in the city were built by him. In 1834 he went to the township of Marengo, Calhoun County, Michigan, where he remained one year, and spent some time in looking for a home for his family. He finally settled in Allegan County,—which was at that time a part of Kalamazoo County,—where he still resides. At the first election of the county for delegates to form a State Constitution, only sixteen votes were cast,—three families comprising all the white settlers in the four northern townships. The first child born of white parents was a son of the subject of this sketch. Colonel Fisk built the second house in the town of Allegan, and carried on the occupation of building for about three years. He then engaged in the mercantile and produce business until 1852. During this time he was Register of Deeds and Sheriff of the county,—each

one term. In 1852 he removed to Chicago, and built the breakwater for the Illinois Central Railroad; and laid the track and foundations for their depot buildings, at a cost of about \$3,000,000. This work occupied a period of five years. During that time he also built the Milwaukee pile bridging across the bay,—one and one-half miles,—and also the first division of the Dubuque and Pacific Railroad, under charge of Colonel Mason. In 1857 he built about seventy-five miles of the southwest branch of the Missouri Pacific Railroad; and, at the same time, was engaged in constructing a portion of the Memphis, El Paso and Pacific Railroad, through Texas,—about six hundred miles. On the breaking out of the Rebellion, however, he was obliged to leave the State, and lose the whole amount. In the midst of the conflict, attended by almost insurmountable difficulties, he built seventy-five miles on the main line of the Missouri Pacific, west of Sedalia. In the year 1865, Colonel Fisk was engaged, in company with Colonel I. Condit Smith, in building two hundred and fifty miles of the Northern Missouri Railroad, including the Kansas Branch, for which they received their entire pay in the bonds of the road, to the amount of about \$5,000,000; Colonel Smith negotiated for the bonds, while Colonel Fisk had charge of the works. On the completion of this road, Colonel Fisk returned to Michigan; and, in company with Goss Warner, F. H. May, Mill and Converse, inaugurated and built the Grand Rapids Division of the Michigan Southern Railroad, *via* Allegan. This was completed in 1868, and sold to the company. In the following year Colonel Fisk completed the Michigan Lake Shore Railroad, from Allegan to Muskegon. He also built that portion of the Northern Central Road from Jonesville to Lansing. He has been a member of the Baptist Church for fifty-one years, and has contributed liberally to its support. He is also a member of the Masonic Fraternity, having joined the Oriental Lodge, of Chicago, in 1852. His political views have always been strongly Democratic. He was married, January 12, 1832, to Betsy Davis, of Wilmington County, New York. They have had six children,—five sons and one daughter,—three of whom are living. Colonel Fisk is a man of strong mental and physical endowments; and, though nearly seventy years of age, he retains all the force of character which has marked him through life.

**F**REEMAN, HON. FRANKLIN S., of Ionia, Michigan, a member of the present Michigan State Senate (1877-78), was born at Sutton, Worcester County, Massachusetts, in the year 1829. His father, Joseph L. Freeman, an extensive woolen manufacturer of that place, failed in business in the great crash of 1838, and moved to Lenawee County, Michigan, in 1839. He remained there until

1843, when he removed to Ionia County. Franklin S., the subject of this sketch, was with his father on a farm, when not at school, until sixteen years of age, when he left his father's home, and started for himself in the world. He was engaged as a clerk in a dry-goods store until 1849, when he was married, at Ionia, Michigan, to Miss Mary Baldee, and then entered into the dry-goods business with his wife's father. His health failing, in 1851, he left mercantile pursuits, and purchased a farm near Ionia, on which he lived for several years. In 1869, having accumulated a competency, and secured a return of good health, he again removed to the city of Ionia, and engaged in the business of money-lending and insurance. In 1873, two years after the incorporation of the People's Fire Insurance Company, at Ionia, Mr. Freeman was elected Secretary and Treasurer of the company, which position he now holds. At the breaking out of the Rebellion, in 1861, Mr. Freeman was a Democrat, but in hearty sympathy with the Government in the prosecution of the war. He contributed largely of his time and money towards raising troops to put down the Rebellion. Upon the assassination of President Lincoln, Mr. Freeman left the Democratic party, and became a pronounced and ardent Republican. In 1876 he was elected to represent the Twenty-fourth District, comprising Ionia and Montcalm counties, in the State Senate, receiving a majority of 1,625 votes over his Democratic competitor. He has been, since 1867, a member of the Masonic Fraternity; and, for several years, has been Master of Washtenong Lodge, No. 286. He is the presiding officer of Ionia Chapter, No. 14, of Royal Arch Masons, and is also a Knight Templar. He was, for a period of seventeen years, Superintendent of the Baptist Sunday School, of which church he is a member. As a member of the State Senate of 1877, he introduced and secured the passage of several important bills, and was a diligent and efficient Senator. He served as Chairman of the Committee on Insurance, and was a member of the Engrossing and Enrolling Committee; also, of the Committee on State Public Schools, and that of Religious and Benevolent Societies. Mr. Freeman's success in life is largely due to his unswerving business integrity, and promptness in meeting financial and other obligations,—never having allowed his note to go past due, or failed to be prompt to the day in a business engagement. This trait of character has always been peculiar to him, and has given him unlimited credit, enabling him to readily command all the money he required to carry out his financial enterprises. He has considerable literary taste, and is a writer of some ability. He is familiar with European and American history. He was, for several years, President of the Ronald Literary Association of Ionia County. He is now in the prime of life, of strong and vigorous consti-

tution; and the problem of his success seems solved. A prominent member and an active worker in the church, he occupies a place in society as a Christian, a business man, and a public-spirited citizen.

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**F**ITZGERALD, JOHN C., of Grand Rapids, Michigan, was born in Berlin, Holmes County, Ohio. His father, Jeremiah Fitzgerald,—Captain of volunteers in the War of 1812,—was a pioneer of Springport, Jackson County, Michigan, where he died in 1868. Mr. Fitzgerald, when a boy, attended the common school, and afterwards, Albion College. He studied law, in the office of Governor Blair, at Jackson, Michigan, and was admitted to the bar in 1858. In 1860 he removed to Marshall, where he engaged in the practice of his profession until 1873. During this time, he also held several positions of trust; as, that of Prosecuting Attorney, from 1861 to 1865, and that of State Senator, in 1869. In 1873 he entered into partnership with John W. Champlin, and removed to Grand Rapids. He had there a large and constantly increasing practice, both in the State and Federal courts. He is a man of fine physical development, strong intellect, and quick perceptions, and has always been an untiring student. He entered upon the practice of law with a determination to stand among the first in the profession. His great strength lies in the thoroughness with which he prepares his cases; both the law and the facts are fully digested and arranged. He takes direct and personal interest in his clients; and, although he has not yet reached middle age, his reputation is already established. In 1862, Mr. Fitzgerald married Addie E. Taylor, of Albion, Michigan, only daughter of Reuben Taylor, an early settler, and a prominent farmer of Jackson County.

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**F**EAKINS, EDWARD, of Wyoming, son of Henry and Sarah (Russell) Feakins, was born in the village of Newnum, East Kent, England, December 21, 1797. The educational advantages then afforded the humbler classes of the people were limited; and the few who could attend school were poorly provided with books,—or, at least, with writing utensils,—a box of white sand being attached to each desk as a copy-book, with sticks for pens. But even these crude means of improvement were denied to him whose rugged way we are to trace; for his parents were able to send only two of their eleven children to school, and Edward, at the age of eleven, was hired out to a farmer at a salary of £5 a year. For more than twenty years Mr.




Feakins was a farm laborer in his native land; but, finding himself unable to rise to independence under the conditions there existing, he saved his hard earnings, year after year, in anticipation of a time when he should be able to go to the United States, which was then just opening her wide domain to the millions that have since occupied it. At last his hopes were realized; and, having embarked in a sail-ship, he arrived in New York in the spring of 1832, after a tedious voyage. His father, in parting from him, said that he would like to give him something, but had nothing to give but good advice; and that was, "to behave himself; be honest, and take nothing that did not belong to him." Edward thanked his father, and to this day has followed his advice. New York and Pennsylvania were then slave States; and, with surprise and regret, Mr. Feakins saw men bought and sold like cattle. He spent more than two years in these two States, most of the time in the lumber woods of Pennsylvania, and then worked his way, gradually, to Detroit. From there he traveled on foot to Gull Prairie; where he worked for a few months, and then pushed on toward Grand River. The atmosphere of Michigan, at that time, was laden with miasma, and the settlers suffered greatly from chills and fever. Mr. Feakins' employer and his family were prostrated with it, which caused Mr. Feakins to seek another position. The distance from Gull Prairie to what is now Wyoming Township is about fifty miles; and, though the trail led through a wilderness, the greater part of the way uninhabited, and he was already prostrated by disease, he started on foot, determined to accomplish the journey. Once, utterly exhausted and burning with fever, he fell by the way and lay there to die. A lone wagoner, driving slowly by, urged him to ride back with him to Gull Prairie, but he refused, saying there was no one to care for him there. Soon rousing all his remaining strength, he stumbled on, until, just as he was about to sink again in despair, he heard the tinkle of a cow-bell. Never had he heard anything that did him half so much good as that. It put new life into him; for he knew there must be white people not far away. It required miles of weary travel to find the cabin; but, once there, he was cared for as well as circumstances would permit. The house was that night broken open by Indians, in search of whisky, but no one was hurt, and he was soon able to finish his journey. In the following spring, with a pair of oxen, and a bag of corn for feed lashed to their yoke, he started to secure a load of apple-trees that had been mired, about twenty-five miles distant, strangely neglecting to provide himself with food. After hard work, he finally succeeded in dragging the wagon out of the half-frozen mud, but was obliged to pass the night without shelter, food, or fire. He walked about to avoid being frozen; but now and then, overcome by fatigue and drowsiness, fell asleep. He was not disturbed, save

by the whooping of an owl; and, after a fast of forty-eight hours, reached his home with his precious freight,—the first fruit-trees ever brought into Grand River Valley. They are still flourishing in Mr. Norma's orchard, in Wyoming, Kent County. In the same township, Mr. Feakins then selected the land upon which he now resides. The log cabin he then built has given place to a large brick mansion; and the little clearing around it has been widened, year after year, till it has become one of the finest farms in the county. It was in 1834 that he entered Grand River Valley. He helped to raise the fourth and fifth houses in Grand Rapids, and dug the grave of the first white child that died in that city. June 2, 1841, he was married to Miss Emily Johnson. Mrs. Feakins still bears the freshness of youth; and upon her, now that her husband is so aged and feeble, devolves, mainly, the direction of his affairs. Mr. Feakins is a small man, but was blessed with great powers of endurance. Of his personal character, it is said that he has ever been honest, industrious, and benevolent; and has never, intentionally, wronged any one. He is now in his eighty-second year, and his spirit seems to be gradually freeing itself from the enfeebled body, to rise to a higher existence. He is conscious of this, and awaits the change with calmness and hope.



GILBERT, HON. THOMAS D., Grand Rapids, was born in Greenfield, Massachusetts, on the 13th of December, 1815. His father was General Thomas Gilbert, and his mother was Harriet A. Arms, daughter of Ebenezer Arms, of Greenfield, Massachusetts. Mr. Gilbert received his early education in the common school of his native village, and afterward attended an academy at Deerfield. In 1830 he entered the store of that well-known philanthropist, John Clark, of Northampton, Massachusetts, where he served as a clerk, and remained five years. In May, 1835, he removed to Michigan, being one of the earliest settlers in the town of Grand Haven. He immediately went into business, in company with others; but the great financial crash of 1837 carried down the firm, leaving Mr. Gilbert with no resources, except his health and the experience gained by two years of unsuccessful business. In 1844 he entered into a business partnership with Francis B. Gilbert, a younger brother, carrying on a large lumber, shipping, and commission business, which proved to be very successful from the first, and continued to increase with the growth of the country. Having acquired a competency, Mr. Gilbert retired from business in 1856, devoting the next two years to traveling in the United States, Europe, and the Orient. He returned to Michigan in the autumn of 1858, and located at Grand Rapids. During his residence in Grand Haven,

he was elected Sheriff of Ottawa County in 1842. In 1860 he was elected to the Lower House of the Michigan Legislature, serving acceptably on the Committee of Ways and Means, and of Banks and Incorporations. It was at a time when the finances of the State were in a deplorable condition, its resources being taxed to the utmost to meet the demands of the Government in aiding to suppress the Rebellion. In 1863 Mr. Gilbert was elected a member of the Board of Regents of the University of Michigan, in which capacity he served during twelve years, receiving no compensation, except the payment of his traveling expenses. During all this period, he was Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Board, being considered a faithful and valuable member. In 1865, when the City National Bank was organized, Mr. Gilbert was chosen its first President, and still continues at the head of this flourishing institution. Upon the organization of the Board of Public Works for the city of Grand Rapids, he was chosen President, and still holds the position. Under the direction of this Board, a fine system of water-works has been constructed, and put in operation; and a large amount of other public work accomplished. Mr. Gilbert is also Secretary and Managing Director of the Grand Rapids Gas Company. In 1871, he married Mary A. Bingham, daughter of Rev. Abel Bingham, who, for thirty years, was a missionary among the Ojibway Indians, at Sault Ste. Marie, on Lake Superior.

LOVER, MAJOR SAMUEL C., of Grand Haven, Michigan, was born at Portsmouth, Ohio, September 11, 1841. His parents, Elijah and Sarah J. (Offner) Glover, were among the earliest settlers of Southern Ohio. His father, in 1830, was editor and proprietor of the Portsmouth *Courier*, the first newspaper ever printed in that place. He afterwards became a prominent lawyer. Major Glover was in the sophomore class of Miami University, when the Government called upon loyal men to enter the army. He was one of the first in the State to enlist. Owing to sickness, he was not mustered into service until July 12, 1861. He was a private in Company A, 39th Ohio Infantry, the celebrated "Groesbeck Regiment" of Cincinnati. His regiment was ordered to St. Louis, and thence to Northern Missouri. It was engaged, for several months, in the arduous service of guerrilla fighting. For thirteen months, Major Glover participated in all its engagements, fighting at New Madrid, Island No. 10, Fort Pillow, the siege of Corinth, and the battle of Corinth, in October, 1862. He was put on special duty in the Commissary Department, and served through all of Grant's campaign, until after the taking of Vicksburg. While there, General Grant's Chief Commissary, Colonel M. McFecly,

recommended him for promotion to the rank of Captain and Commissary of Subsistence. The Commissary, with whom he was on duty, was ordered to St. Louis to purchase vegetables and extra supplies for use in the hospitals of Vicksburg. Captain Glover took charge of his first shipment, and on his return, was entrusted by the Chief Commissary of Vicksburg with \$32,000, to carry to St. Louis, for the use of the purchasing officer at that point. The boat on which he took passage was crowded with Union soldiers going home on furlough, and rebel deserters going North. There were eleven hundred passengers, and Mr. Glover was compelled to sleep on the cabin floor during the trip, which was unusually long; but he brought the money through safely. In April, 1864, he received, from the Governor of Ohio, a commission as First Lieutenant in the 73d Regiment of Ohio Veteran Infantry; but before he reached his command, he was assigned to duty, by order of General Sherman, as Acting Commissary of Subsistence, at Nashville, Tennessee. He took charge of, and delivered to the army at Chattanooga the first drove of beef cattle which was sent through from Nashville to that place. He drove nearly one thousand head of cattle, without guides, and with only five herdsman, over a route new to him, through a country filled with guerrillas, and delivered them to the army at Chattanooga, with the loss of only three head. The drive of one hundred and fifty-one miles was accomplished in twelve and a half days. In June, 1864, the recommendation of Colonel McFecly was acted upon, and Captain Glover was appointed, by President Lincoln, Commissary of Subsistence, with the rank of Captain. This appointment was confirmed by the United States Senate, and a commission was forwarded July 1, 1864. Captain Glover was stationed at Nashville, Tennessee; but, at his own request, was ordered to the field, and served on the staff of General R. W. Johnson, as Commissary of the 6th Cavalry Division, through Hood's campaign. He was then transferred to the 4th Army Corps, and passed through the East Tennessee campaign. In June, 1865, he went to New Orleans; and, by order of General Sheridan, was detached from the 4th Army Corps, and put in charge of the Commissary Department at Indianola, Texas. He had charge of all the supplies for the Central District of Texas, and remained there until the close of the year 1865. In January, 1866, he was mustered out of service, and received, from President Johnson, a commission as Major. He engaged in mercantile business at West Liberty, Logan County, Ohio, until 1867. In 1870 he became the managing partner in the lumber firm of White, Glover & Co., Grand Haven, Michigan. A fire, which occurred July 4, 1877, swept away the labor and earnings of six years. Major Glover at once leased a mill in the vicinity, and, within a week, had it in operation, and finished his contracts for sawing lumber. In




politics, he is a staunch Republican; but, in municipal and county elections, he always votes for the best man, without regard to party. He is a prominent Free Mason and Knight Templar, and has filled important positions in the Chapter, at Grand Haven. He is an elder in the Presbyterian Church; and, as an active Christian worker, has few equals. His position as Superintendent of the Sunday School, which is one of the largest and best-conducted in the State, has brought him into intimate relationship with the young, among whom his influence has been marked and salutary. In his social and business relations, he has won the esteem and confidence of the community. He married, September 5, 1866, Fannie E., daughter of the late Rev. Seth and Mary Roberts Howell. They have three children.

**G**UNDRUM, FREDERICK, M. D., Physician and Surgeon, Ionia, Michigan, was born at Pirmasens, a city of Bavaria, on the 26th of March, 1845. His father, Peter Gundrum, was an industrious, energetic man, and a sincere Christian. His mother, Catherine Gundrum, is a kind, self-sacrificing, patient mother, devoted to the welfare and advancement of her children. It is to her remarkable perseverance that they owe the advantages which have resulted to them from emigration; as a family of eight persons, after a voyage of forty-one days, from Havre, France, they arrived safely at New Orleans, December 31, 1854. From there, the family removed to Stewartsville, a village in Posey County, Indiana. Here the subject of this sketch worked on a farm in summer, and went to school in winter, thus obtaining a district-school education, and learning, at the same time, to speak English. The death of his father, caused by an accident, left him, in his seventeenth year, dependent upon his own resources. He had ardently desired to obtain a classical education before becoming of age, but this was now impossible; and, instead, he engaged as clerk in the store of A. E. Fretagcot & Son, in New Harmony, Indiana. This proved to be an important step in his life; for he soon acquired such proficiency in business as to elicit high commendation from his employers, and gain the notice of a lady of wealth, distinction, and excellence of character, who, learning from his employer the young man's disposition and thirst for knowledge, invited him to make her house his home; this invitation he gladly accepted, and thus had the advantage of a good library. Here a work on the science of medicine, so much interested him that he desired to study it whenever he had a moment's leisure, and took it to the store; there he was noticed by a physician, who offered him the use of any book in his medical library; and thus was decided the adoption of his profession. He remained with Messrs. Fretagcot &

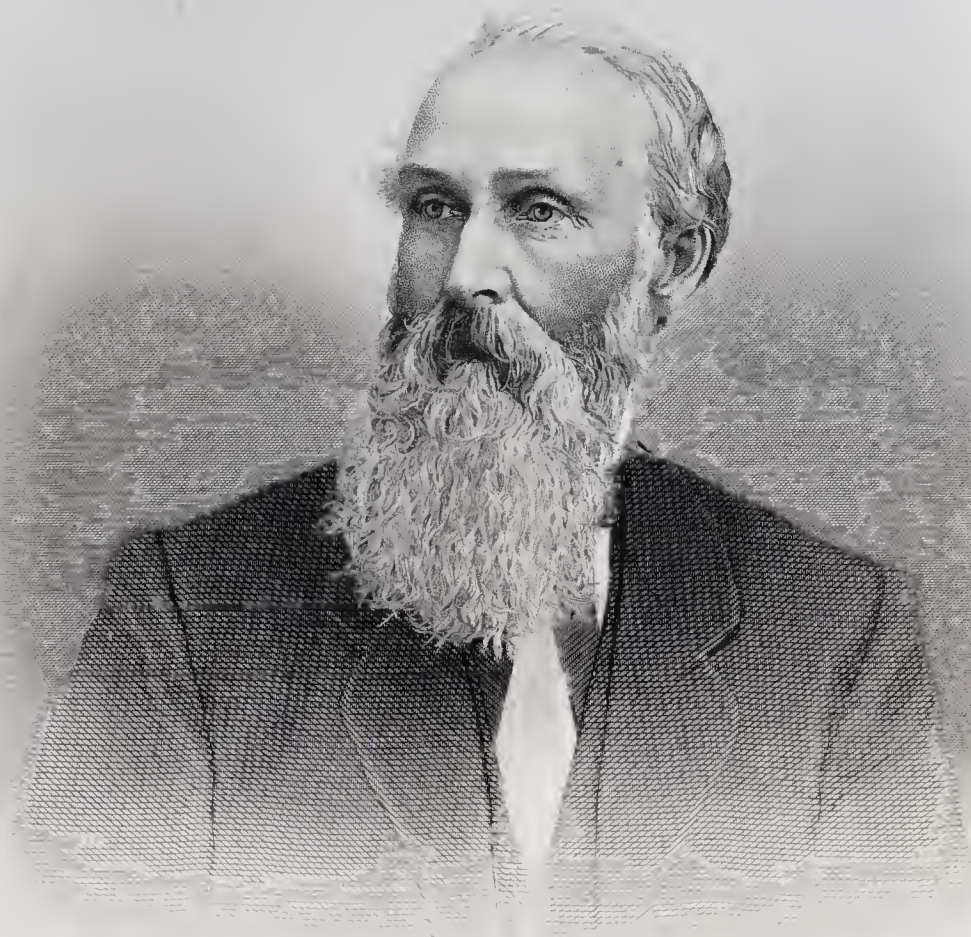
Son three years; and, in that time, read as much of the science of medicine as is usually accomplished by regular medical students during a similar period; then, being desirous of attending a course of medical lectures, he was enabled to do so by the assistance of his brothers. He went to the University of Michigan, and there, denying himself everything but the absolute necessities of life, studied one year. Desiring the advantages which hospital clinics afford to the student of medicine and surgery, there being no hospital at Ann Arbor, he went to Cincinnati, and there matriculated, in the autumn of 1867, at the Miami Medical College. Besides attending the regular course of lectures, he took private instructions from leading professors. In February, 1868, he graduated, with the highest honors of the class, and at once entered the list of candidates for the position of house physician to the Cincinnati Hospital. After a rigid examination, he was chosen entirely on his merits, and entered upon the duties of that position for one year from the 10th of March, 1868. In April, 1869, he removed to Ionia, Michigan, and engaged in the practice of his profession. An extraordinary case of ankylosis,—which, shortly after his arrival at Ionia, he treated most successfully, the patient being a daughter of Professor Hutchins,—at once established his reputation and superior skill in surgery, which many other most difficult, but successfully performed operations, have entirely confirmed; placing him, as a surgeon and physician, at the head of his profession in Ionia County. But Dr. Gundrum's practice is not confined to that county; his services, especially those of a surgical character, being solicited in all the adjoining counties. Dr. Gundrum is a member of the State Medical Association; examining physician for two Michigan insurance companies; the Ionia Light Guard, and the western division of the D., L. & L. M. Railroad. In 1870 he became a member of the Masonic Fraternity, and is a Royal Arch Mason. In 1873 he was initiated into the Independent Order of Odd-Fellows, and is a R. P. member. In 1876 he became a charter member of the first body of the Knights of Honor organized in Ionia. He has been a member of the Congregational Church since May, 1877, and regards the teachings of the Bible as his rule and guide in life. Personally, he has all the enthusiasm of an ardent lover, and that magnetism of manner and faculty of inspiring confidence in his operations so essential to patients; he is also a devoted friend, a loving and helpful brother. While yet upon the threshold of the prime of life, he has attained a position of comparative independence. Although regarded as a master by others, he considers himself yet a student of his profession; and, so considering, in the autumn of 1873, he left home, and spent the following five months attending the lectures of eminent colleges in New York City. So unusual a movement on the part of an established physician proves

him to be a true disciple of Esculapius, regarding himself ever a student in that profession wherein there is no limit to study. Dr. Gundrum has the finest library of standard medical works, in French, English and German, in Ionia County. In 1872 Dr. Gundrum married Ida Fretageot, of New Harmony, Indiana, daughter of his former employer. A lady of education and elegant manners, Mrs. Gundrum has every accomplishment to grace her husband's station, and help him in his life-labor of alleviating the sufferings of humanity.

ODFREY, FREEMAN, Grand Rapids, Michigan, was born at Vershire, Orange County, Vermont, on the 5th of September, 1825. His ancestors were among the first settlers in the State. His grandfather was born at Northwood, New Hampshire, and settled in Vermont in 1789. He was a farmer, as was also his son, the father of our subject. The family name is very old, and can be traced back eight hundred years to its French Alsatian origin, in the present German Province of Lorraine. In the early mention of it in history, we find Godfrey of Bouillon, the Grand Master of the Knights Templar in the time of Philip the Fair, of France. The subject of this sketch was instructed, in the common schools of his native town, in the rudimentary branches of an English education. Being a healthy, active, and ingenious lad, of an inquiring mind, and having confidence in his own ability, he very early turned his attention from farm labor to farm mechanism, and engaged in the construction of drags, plow-beams, ox-yokes, cart and wagon bodies and axles, and exchanged his work as a mechanic and builder for the farm labor of his neighbors. He employed his time in this way until his twentieth year, diversifying his occupation by running a threshing-machine in the fall, burning charcoal in winter, working in a saw-mill in the spring and on his father's farm in summer, until 1845, when he went to Lowell, Massachusetts, and there worked in a cotton-mill for nearly a year. Deciding, then, to go West, Mr. Godfrey passed through the cities of New York, and Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, to Pittsburg. He there entered into an engagement to peddle brass clocks in Ohio and Indiana. In 1851 he worked on the Terre Haute and Alton Railroad as a contractor, making his home at the former place. In 1852 he took a contract on the line of the Illinois Central Railroad; and, in October, 1856, finished the road-bed and rails of his section. With their completion, this great internal improvement of seven hundred and forty miles of railroad was finished. In December following, he went to Grand Rapids, Michigan, to engage in the construction of the Detroit and Milwaukee Railroad, which his party completed from Detroit to Grand Rapids in July, 1858, and

to Grand Haven within the remaining months of that year. He next became interested in the construction of the Transit Railroad, from Winona to Rochester, Minnesota; but that State repudiated its bonds, and, in view of the panic of 1857, and subsequent financial disturbances, the work was brought to a premature conclusion. In the winter of 1859-60, Mr. Godfrey took a contract on the Grand Rapids and Indiana Railroad,—a land grant improvement,—and graded a portion of the line; but, the company being out of money, the work stopped. By individual effort,—the first twenty miles being completed, and the terms of the Land Grant Act of the Legislature thus complied with, for that year,—it was necessary to build twenty miles more the following year. Railroad bonds could not be sold; the war had begun between the Northern and Southern States, and wealthy and influential men combined to defeat financial negotiations of the company, and secure legislative forfeiture, under the conditions of the law authorizing the construction of this railroad. But these machinations failed. A receiver was appointed, and in almost the last days, when there remained but eight weeks of the period within which forfeiture could not take place, Mr. Godfrey took the northern ten miles of the twenty required, through an unbroken wilderness of heavy timber, and in five weeks and two days, accomplished that which had been pronounced an impossible work,—the completion of his contract. The Continental Improvement Company was then organized, and completed the Grand Rapids and Indiana Railroad in 1874. This improvement is now regarded as the most valuable ever accomplished for the city of Grand Rapids, as it opens up, as a feeder to that city, the whole peninsula, north and south, furnishing a market for its trade and manufactures. It is also a valuable feeder for the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. Mr. Godfrey actively interested himself also in the Grand River Valley Railroad; aiding in locating the line, settling rights of way, soliciting stock subscription, voting city aid, locating and purchasing depot grounds in the city of Grand Rapids, etc. He also originated, and, with two friends, organized the Grand Rapids and Holland Railroad Company, and was elected its President. He located the line, arranged to obtain the money; and contracted to build the road in four months,—furnishing everything except rails, spikes, frogs, and switches,—to ballast and fence it, and pay engineering and right of way, for seven thousand five hundred dollars a mile. With the assistance of three friends, he did all this, completing it within the time of his contract. In 1860, having directed his attention to the plaster business, Mr. Godfrey purchased some land, containing plaster, within Grand Rapids' city limits. He opened a quarry; built a water-mill and a steam-mill, each having two run of stones; calcining works, with two kettles to calcine plaster, having a capacity of forty





*Freeman Goffrey*





barrels each; designed the plans of the building and machinery, and superintended their construction. With his brother, under the firm name of F. Godfrey & Brother, he manufactures and sells large quantities of land and calcined plaster, the productions of the firm being known everywhere in the West, from Ohio to California. To increase this business, F. Godfrey & Brother, in 1865, bought one-third of the old plaster quarry and mills, White & Rathbun having purchased the remaining two-thirds. On this ground, Mr. Godfrey designed and superintended the construction of a new water and steam-mill, with three run of stones; calcining works, and kettle of forty barrels capacity; opened a new quarry, and, with the other partners, built up a large trade, now owned and maintained by the firm of G. H. White & Co. In 1875, under the Michigan corporation laws, a stock company was organized, known as the Michigan and Ohio Plaster Company. Mr. F. Godfrey was made President, and still holds that position, having entire management of the business. This Company purchased all the plaster that was made or sold by one Ohio, one Iowa, and seven Michigan rock, land, and calcined plaster firms, and sold the same in the general market. His constructive ability and means have not been wholly engrossed by railroads and plaster works. He has built, in the city of Grand Rapids, three different blocks of buildings, which are ornaments to that city, and manifest his judgment and skill as an architect. Having enough regular business to occupy his time, Mr. Godfrey has refused, decisively, all offers of political distinction in office. In politics, he has ever been independent, following the lead that he believed the most advantageous for the general interests of the country,—a Whig with the Whigs, a Free-Soiler with the Free-Soilers, a War Democrat, and a Peace Democrat, in turn; at present he takes pride in standing in the front rank of those who, in his State (and they are many), demand free United States Government money. In March, 1851, he married Miss Abbie E. Eastman, of Vershire, Vermont, and this union has been blessed with a family of five children, all of whom are living. One of the best evidences of a noble man is his honor and devotion to his parents. During the life of Mr. Godfrey's father,—who was a member of the family until his death, which occurred in April, 1877, when he was in the seventy-ninth year of his age,—nothing was left unsupplied to him that would, in any particular, contribute to his comfort and happiness. As indicated in this sketch, Mr. Godfrey is of a quick and active disposition, a sanguine temperament, and has great force of character. These qualities, together with his benignant bearing, command the respect of all with whom he is associated; and, as one of the truly self-made men of Michigan, he takes rank among the first of those portrayed in these pages.

**GOODALE, GEORGE S.**, Banker, of Muskegon, was the son of Dr. Reuben Goodale and Pauline (Adams) Goodale, and was born in Watertown, Jefferson County, New York. His ancestry came from New England, his mother being a native of Berkshire, Massachusetts, and his father, of New Hampshire. They were married early in life, and settled in Watertown, New York, where Dr. Goodale devoted himself to his profession for over sixty years, and acquired a wide experience in the large practice which was the natural growth of years of patient labor. George Goodale received an ordinary academic education, and when eighteen years old, entered the Jefferson Bank, in which he afterwards became teller. When the Union Bank, of Watertown, was organized, he was offered, and accepted, the position of cashier. His ability and shrewdness in all the details connected with the banking business gave him a wide reputation; and, in 1869, he received the appointment of United States Bank Examiner for Michigan. In 1870 he was sent, officially, into the Southern States. He resigned his appointment in 1875, and was elected cashier of the Muskegon National Bank. He filled this position one year, and then resigned. Mr. Goodale married Elvira P. Smith, second daughter of Major Henry Smith, of the United States Army. Major Smith died at Vera Cruz during the Mexican War.

**GRINNELL, HENRY**, Insurance Agent and Real Estate Owner, of Grand Rapids, was born in Howard, Steuben County, New York, January 14, 1818. His parents were William and Ruth (Alexander) Grinnell. He enjoyed no other educational advantages than those afforded by the district schools, with one term in the high school at Rochester, New York. He was to be trained in the great school of the world,—so superior, in some respects, to the college; developing, as it does, self-reliance, and giving free scope to the exercise of individual bent of mind as no mere curriculum can. The worthier part of humanity may be divided into two great classes, namely: men of ideas, and men of action; the former passing their lives in the quiet of the cloister, the studio, and the laboratory; while the latter plunge into the world's noise and strife. The one discovers and formulates principles; the other so applies and uses them as to provide for the countless needs of life. The two are intimately related, and equally important. The subject of this sketch belongs to the latter class. At the age of sixteen, he became a grocer's clerk, in Rochester, and remained in that situation five years. He then acted as clerk for a collector of canal tolls for three years; and, at the expiration of that time, became book-keeper for a large

firm in Mt. Morris, New York. At the end of one year he returned to Rochester; and, after writing one winter in the Sheriff's office, in that city, went, the following spring, to Monroe, Michigan, to buy wheat for an employer. He then engaged as a book-keeper in Buffalo, and remained two years, after which he went to Brockport and took charge of the office of collector of canal tolls for one year. At the expiration of that time, he retraced his steps to Monroe, Michigan, and was employed there two years as book-keeper in a forwarding and commission house. He then engaged in the same business for himself, rebuilding a steamer for the purpose, and during the six years in which he was so occupied, made many trips on it in order to better supervise his interests. Finally, however, this undertaking proved a failure. Mr. Grinnell then went to New York City, where he opened a commission and transportation office; and after being thus employed for three years, he went to Grand Rapids, and there engaged in buying wheat. Soon afterwards, in the spring of 1854, he formed a co-partnership with David Miller, in the wholesale and retail grocery business, in the old Temperance Hall, on Canal street. This firm was dissolved in 1860, but Mr. Grinnell remained in the business until 1865, when he became a partner of Mr. John W. Squier in a flour-mill, and continued the relation until 1870. At this time he was induced to invest in a certain unfortunate patent-right. This was a patent barrel and nail-keg; and, its superiority was so eloquently depicted, that a number of shrewd New York capitalists were also persuaded to enlist in the enterprise. A stock company, under the name of Henry Grinnell & Co., was formed, and a factory built in Wheeling, West Virginia. A fair trial of two years proved it a humbug, and Mr. Grinnell lost thirty thousand dollars. In 1872, he built, in Grand Rapids, what is known as the Grinnell Block, and has since contented himself with the insurance business and book-keeping. He is a member of the Democratic party. He was married, October 23, 1856, to Miss Henrietta Squier, second daughter of John W. Squier, deceased, who was a worthy pioneer and business man of Grand Rapids. They have had three sons, two of whom are living. Most of his life Mr. Grinnell has been as a "ship driven by winds and tossed," but he is now anchored in what is to him a safe harbor; and here, blessed with plenty, and surrounded by his agreeable family and a wide circle of friends, he will doubtless pass his remaining days. Mr. Grinnell enjoys good health. He has a commanding stature, well-shaped head and face, with features that bear in their genial expression a trace of mirthfulness. In experience, native ability and integrity, he ranks high among business men, and is generally respected by his fellow-citizens. But the best comment upon his character is that he is a kind and affectionate husband and father. [See sketch of J. W. Squier.]

**G**RIFFIN, HON. HENRY, ex-Mayor of Grand Haven, was born in Niagara County, Canada, in 1807. The founder of the family in America was one of three brothers, who emigrated from Wales more than two hundred years ago. One of his descendants is now living at Lodi, Ohio, at the advanced age of one hundred and sixteen years. Mr. Griffin's father was a native of New York; his mother, of New Jersey: they participated in the stirring scenes of the Revolution. He himself has witnessed the development of his country from a small commonwealth to a power among the nations of the earth. He received his elementary education from the instruction of a celebrated teacher, who kept his father's books. In 1830, he married a daughter of Rev. D. W. Eastman, the pioneer of Presbyterianism in Upper Canada. Six years later, he made a prospecting tour in the West; and, in August, 1837, removed to Grand Haven with his family. He has been engaged in the drug business since 1849. He has held the offices of Justice of the Peace, County High Sheriff, County Clerk, and Mayor of the city. In these positions he has acquitted himself with credit, and has always used his influence on the side of purity and rectitude. He has been connected with the society of Odd-Fellows twenty-six years. He has been an elder in the Presbyterian Church forty years, and has always taken a deep interest in the Home Missionary work of the State. He has been foremost in schemes for public improvement; and has, for many years, been an earnest advocate of the principles of the Democracy.

**G**UNDRUM, GEORGE, Pharmaceutical Chemist, of Ionia, Michigan, was born in the town of Pirmasens, Bavaria, Germany, January 20, 1842. His parents, Peter and Catharine (Faul) Gundrum, were natives of the same place, and emigrated to this country, from Germany, in the year 1854. They settled in the State of Indiana, where his father died in 1862. George attended school in his native town, and, until his father's death, had the benefit of the public schools in Indiana in the winter season; being employed in working on a farm in summer. Shortly after the death of his father, he engaged as clerk in a dry goods store, first at South Bend, and subsequently at Evansville, Indiana, employing all his spare time in the study of chemistry, to which branch of science he was much devoted. With no other assistance than that derived from text-books on the subject, he became very proficient in that study; and, in the year 1870, moved to Ionia, and established a drug store, in company with his brothers, Godfrey and Frederick. In order to fully acquaint himself with the details of his business, he applied himself assiduously to study, and attended several courses







Eng<sup>d</sup> by Geo E. Perine, N York

*C. H. Hackley*



of lectures at Ann Arbor University, graduating with high honors at that institution in 1876. During his absence at Ann Arbor, his brothers had charge of the business; but, after his graduation, his brother Godfrey retired. Very recently George bought out Frederick, and is now sole proprietor. His store is handsomely fitted up, and is the largest in the county, devoted exclusively to the drug business. Mr. Gundrum enjoys quite a reputation as a botanist, and has few equals in that department of natural science. He devotes himself closely to his business, and is known as a careful and painstaking man, in a business in which these qualities are of paramount importance. He is a member of the Michigan Pharmaceutical Association. In his political opinions, he agrees with the Democratic party; he is connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is pleasing and affable in his manners, and is a man of sterling integrity; an agreeable companion, and is widely known and universally respected in the community. Much of his history can be gleaned from that of his brother Frederick, whose sketch appears elsewhere. He married, October 24, 1877, Kate, daughter of W. McPherson, Esq., of Ionia County.

**G**RAVES, REV. SAMUEL, D.D., Grand Rapids, is the son of John Graves, who was a leading politician in Ackworth, New Hampshire, and Betsy (Cilley) Graves, whose earnest, Christian faith has left its impress upon the character of the son. The subject of this sketch was born at Ackworth, New Hampshire, March 25, 1820. He received his early education at Lyndon Academy, Vermont. In 1837 he was apprenticed, for four years, to the firm of E. & T. Fairbanks & Co., scale manufacturers, at St. Johnsbury, Vermont; but his intense desire for a liberal education induced him to close his apprenticeship at the end of two years, and enter Madison University, in Hamilton, New York. He remained here until 1846, when he graduated from the Theological Seminary. For three years before his graduation, he was instructor in Greek, and remained at his Alma Mater, as tutor in mathematics, for two years after completing his theological studies. In 1848 Dr. Graves was installed pastor of the Baptist Church at Ann Arbor, Michigan, remaining three years; during which time the church membership increased from sixty-two to two hundred and sixteen. Yielding to earnest solicitation, he resigned his pastoral charge to become Professor of Greek and Systematic Theology, in Kalamazoo College. He continued in this position for eight years, developing the minds and influencing the destinies of many young men. Receiving a call to the Central Baptist Church, of Norwich, Connecticut, he accepted, and remained there ten years. During this period, the

church membership had a gain of over two hundred; the house of worship was enlarged; and the individual members grew in faith, brotherly love, and unity. On the 1st of January, 1870, he became pastor of the Baptist Church of Grand Rapids, Michigan, which numbered about two hundred and sixty members. Under his ministrations, the number has increased to more than five hundred; and a large and elegant church edifice has been erected at a cost of eighty thousand dollars, sixty thousand of which have been raised. During the year 1872, Dr. Graves spent seven months in Europe; and, before his return, he visited the Holy Land. He was married, September 23d, 1846, to Mary W., daughter of James L. Baldwin, of Paterson, New Jersey. As a minister, Dr. Graves holds a prominent place in the Baptist denomination in Michigan. His sermons are distinguished for simplicity, clearness, and directness; his manner in the pulpit is unostentatious, and deeply earnest. He is a man of catholic spirit, interesting himself in whatever concerns the moral and spiritual welfare of the community in which he resides.

**H**ACKLEY, CHARLES H., Lumberman, of Muskegon, Michigan, was born at Michigan City, Indiana, January 3, 1837. During his early boyhood, his family removed to Southport, now Kenosha, Wisconsin. There he received his early training, both literary and commercial. His attendance at school ceased at fifteen, and the intervening time, until 1856, was devoted to hard labor on railroads and public works. In the spring of 1856, he worked his passage on the schooner "Challenge," to Muskegon, where he landed with only seven dollars in his pocket. He immediately sought work, and engaged with the firm of Durkee, Truesdell & Co., lumber manufacturers, to act as fireman, or in any other capacity about the mill in which he could make himself useful. He remained with the firm until its dissolution, in 1857. Mr. Hackley's energy, perseverance and general business ability, won the confidence and esteem of his employers, and they sent him to Kenosha, Wisconsin, to finish his business education at a commercial college. On his return to Muskegon, he took charge of the books of Gideon Truesdell, Esq., successor to Durkee, Truesdell & Co.; and, in the spring of 1859, having accumulated the sum of five hundred dollars, he, in connection with his father and Gideon Truesdell, purchased the saw-mill property of Holmes, Pomeroy & Co., and set up the firm of I. H. Hackley & Co., he keeping the books for both establishments. This new enterprise proving successful, they were enabled, in the fall of 1860, to buy another mill, owned by Thomas Wing. Mr. Hackley kept the books for the three firms until 1866, when, through the results of his

untiring industry, he was enabled to purchase the whole interest of Gideon Truesdell in the firm of I. H. Hackley & Co. At the same time he formed a new partnership with James McGordon, under the firm name of Hackley & McGordon. The firm of I. H. Hackley & Co. was changed to Hackley & Sons, and continued to operate until 1873, when the mill and fixtures were sold and removed. A new mill, costing eighty-five thousand dollars, was erected on the same site, which is now one of the best lumber establishments in the State of Michigan. In the fall of 1875, the mill of Hackley & McGordon was burned, with a loss of sixty-five thousand dollars, and was not rebuilt. The insurance on it covered thirty-five thousand dollars of the loss. I. H. Hackley died in 1874, and the firm has assumed the name of C. H. Hackley & Co., with James McGordon as partner. C. H. Hackley & Co. handle an immense quantity of logs and lumber, amounting annually to about thirty million feet. They own large tracts of pine lands, vessels, tug-boats, etc., all in connection with their lumber business. Mr. Hackley has filled several important offices. He was City and County Treasurer, and Alderman of the Fourth Ward. He is, at the present time, Supervisor of the Fourth Ward; Director and Vice-President of the Muskegon National Bank; Director of the Lumbermen's National Bank; Director and Treasurer of the Muskegon Booming Company; and Director of the Board of Education. He is also an earnest worker in the cause of temperance reform, inaugurated in Muskegon by Dr. H. A. Reynolds, and is one of the foremost in aiding the erection of a fine brick building to be used for that purpose. Mr. Hackley was married to Miss Julia E. Moore, of Centerville, New York, October 3, 1864. He is still in the prime of life, with a record in the past that guarantees to him a future career honorable to himself and beneficial to the community. He has not spent all his energies in the accumulation of wealth or for his own personal aggrandizement. He possesses a warm heart, endowed with ready sympathy for the necessities of others, and has ever taken an active part in promoting local and other improvements.

**H**AIRE, HON. ROBERT A., of Spring Lake, Ottawa County, Michigan, was born in Bombay, Franklin County, New York, July 20, 1836. He removed, with his parents, to Western New York in 1841, and settled near the city of Rochester. From there the family emigrated to Michigan, and, in 1846, they established themselves near Grand Rapids. Mr. Haire received a common school education, and took a course in the Grand Rapids Commercial College. In 1852 he engaged in the lumber business, in the eastern part of Ottawa County. In August, 1862, he enlisted

in the 5th Michigan Cavalry. He took part in the battle of Gettysburg, and in nearly all the subsequent battles in which the Army of the Potomac was engaged. In March, 1864, he was one of the five hundred men chosen by General Kilpatrick, and placed under Colonel Dahlgren, for the purpose of capturing the city of Richmond, and liberating the Union prisoners. He was promoted to First Lieutenant for gallantry in the battles of this expedition. He accompanied General Sheridan during the Shenandoah campaign; and, for meritorious services, was raised, in December, 1864, to the rank of Captain. During a portion of the winter of 1864-5, he had command of his regiment, and was complimented by General Sheridan for his able management during one of the engagements. After his return home, he settled in Spring Lake, Ottawa County, and engaged in the manufacture of lumber. In the sessions of 1872-3, he served in the Lower House of the State Legislature. In 1877 he was chosen President of the village.

**H**ALDANE, WILLIAM, of Grand Rapids, was born in Delhi, Delaware County, New York, May 5, 1807, and was the eldest son of a family of four children. His parents, James and Elizabeth (Preston) Haldane, were natives of Edinburgh, Scotland, and came to America about the close of the Revolution. When he was eight years of age, his father died, and he was hired out to do chores for farmers. In this he was engaged until he was fourteen years old, being allowed to attend school a part of the time. He obtained his education, however, principally through his own exertions, studying many nights by the dim light of the fire, to which was sometimes added a burning pine knot. When he was fourteen years of age, he apprenticed himself to a carpenter and joiner in Nunda Valley. For his service he was to receive his board and clothing, and be allowed to attend school two months during each winter term. His time and attention were thus engaged until he was twenty years old, when he became a journeyman. After one year and a half he began taking contracts, employing his two youngest brothers as apprentices. After carrying on this business about five years, he abandoned it to undertake the manufacture of furniture, and built a shop for that purpose, in which he remained three years. In 1837 he moved to Grand River Rapids, afterwards named Grand Rapids. In 1838 he went to Ohio, and there, for three years, made machinery for the manufacture of chairs. He then returned to Michigan, taking with him the first machinery of the kind ever taken into the State. Here he commenced the manufacture of furniture, and also carried on the undertaking business until 1871. From an early day he has been iden-





Very Respectfully,  
Frederick K. Hall









Eng<sup>d</sup> by Geo E Perine N York

*S. C. Hall,*



tified with the material development of the city, having built the first good brick house, of brick which he brought from Milwaukee. He has been a member of the Congregational Church for fifty years. In politics, he belonged to the Free-Soil party until 1854, when the Republican party was organized, and he became a member of it. He has since voted the Republican ticket. Mr. Haldane was married, August 17, 1831, to Miss Sarah Tomlinson. He is a quiet, unassuming gentleman. By persevering industry, good management, and strict integrity, he has carried his way to success, and has won the esteem of his fellow-citizens.

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**HALL, HON. FREDERICK**, of Ionia, Michigan, was born in Shelburn, Chittenden County, Vermont, March 24, 1816. His father, Burgess Hall, was an Associate Judge, and a member of the Legislature of Vermont. Mr. Hall was educated in the public schools of his native town. He was well drilled in all the elementary branches, but liked hunting and fishing better than study. In 1835 he went to Galena, Illinois. While there his funds failed, and he crossed the Mississippi, and spent the winter of 1835-6 in chopping cord-wood. He was variously occupied, at different places, until the fall and winter of 1836-37, when he was engaged in looking up Government lands. In the fall of the latter year, he was appointed Deputy Register at Lyons, Michigan. In the spring of 1842, he became associated with John Ball, of Grand Rapids, and assisted him in selecting five hundred thousand acres of land, granted by the United States to Michigan for internal improvements. In July, 1842, he engaged with Daniel Ball, as clerk in a general mercantile business. The following February he was appointed Deputy Register, and was also made clerk for the receiving of public money. In 1844 he was elected Register of Deeds, and, in 1845, was appointed Receiver of Public Money, which position he held until 1849. From that time until 1853, he was engaged extensively in land speculations. In 1853 he was again appointed Receiver of Public Money, by President Pierce. In 1840 he was Justice of the Peace of Lyons Township, Ionia County. In 1849 he was elected to the Legislature. He was nominated for Congress, on the Democratic ticket, in 1864. In 1873 he was the first Mayor of Ionia, and, the following year, was the Democratic candidate for Lieutenant-Governor. In 1876 he was one of the State Electors. He was a Director of the Ionia and Lansing Railroad until its consolidation with the Detroit, Lansing and Lake Michigan Railroad; and was President of the First National Bank for a number of years from its organization. Mr. Hall has been actively engaged as general land operator for many years. He is the

wealthiest man in Ionia County, and one of its most generous and public-spirited citizens. His political views and sentiments harmonize with those of the Democratic party. He took a prominent part in getting up a regiment during the late Rebellion. Mr. Hall became a member of the Masonic Fraternity, in December, 1849, and was exalted to Ionia Chapter, No. 14, in 1852. He is also a member of Ionia Commandery, No. 11, Knights Templar. He belongs to the Council of Royal and Select Masters, and was knighted at Detroit Commandery, No. 1, in 1853. He became an Odd-Fellow in 1875. He has held the offices of High Priest in Chapter No. 14; Commander of Ionia Commandery; and Chief Patriarch of Ionia Encampment. Mr. Hall has always been intimately identified with the educational and public interests of Ionia. He is a liberal supporter of churches and schools, and contributes to the building of railroads. His rare business qualifications have gained for him universal respect, and his unvarying courtesy and hearty sociability win the love of those fortunate enough to be thrown into intimate relations with him. In person, he is tall, of graceful bearing, and prepossessing appearance. His residence, on Main street, Ionia,—one of the most elegant in Western Michigan,—is built entirely of the variegated sandstone obtained from the Ionia quarries. Mr. Hall was married, January 8, 1848, to Ann Eager. They have one child—a daughter.

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**HALL, STEPHEN C.**, Muskegon, was born in Yates County, New York, August 16, 1834. He was educated at Penn Yan, and graduated from the full mathematical course, intending to become a civil engineer. When nineteen years of age he engaged as clerk in a store; and, when twenty-one, he removed to the western settlement on White River, in West Michigan, where he worked at any thing he found to do. During this period of his life, Mr. Hall, by his knowledge of land surveying, acquired in practice with surveyors there employed, became thoroughly acquainted with the best land in the State. In 1864 he was employed in the final survey of the present city of Muskegon, in which he has made his permanent home. In the prosecution of his business at that time, he observed, in the townships of Eggleston and Morland, about twelve miles east of Muskegon, a tract of marsh land of which about three thousand acres were covered with water, from early spring to midsummer, to the depth of from three to four feet. When the Government survey was made, the section lines were not run through this land, the surveyors entering it on their note-book as "an impassible marsh." Mr. Hall, believing that this land could be drained for a very small

consideration, obtained a title to it. By the outlay of some capital and much energy and perseverance, he has succeeded in transforming this marshy arm of the river into a beautiful and fertile farm, upon which he has grown many tons of hay; also, wheat and the other cereals common to the country, the soil being richer than that of the higher lands adjoining. There is no such farm in the State, as it contains more than two thousand acres. The pine lands of Michigan were early noticed by Mr. Hall as a profitable investment; and, by careful management, he obtained a title for about fifteen thousand acres, which were principally in the neighborhood of Houghton Lake. Here, in the winter season, by the employment of about three hundred men and one hundred horses, he gets out for market from fifteen to twenty million feet of logs, which are sold to the different lumber manufacturers of Muskegon and elsewhere. As a man of great business energy, thoughtful and far-sighted, Mr. Hall has won wealth and high reputation; while, as a gentleman of fine social qualities, he is regarded with much favor. As a public officer, he has served three terms as Supervisor, and two as County Treasurer, giving general satisfaction to the people of both political parties. In April, 1863, Mr. Hall married Miss Alice A. Clark, of Grand Haven, Michigan.

**H**ARRISON, WILLIAM, Grand Rapids, a native of Sibsey, Lincolnshire, England, was born on the 10th of January, 1824. He attended the National School, at Sibsey, and also a select school, at March, Cambridgeshire. In October, 1838, he went to Stickney, to learn the wheelwright and joiner trade. The following January he was bound out for six years, as an apprentice to that business. After serving his time, he worked four years longer for the same employer; and, for months together, he worked at whip-sawing, preparing wheelwright stock, his wages being twenty-two cents per day. Out of this amount he was expected to pay all his expenses, except board. His working hours were from six in the morning until eight at night, half an hour being allowed for breakfast and an hour for dinner. Mr. Harrison worked as journeyman for four years, and, during this time, saved about twenty pounds, which he lent to two of his friends, at five per cent. interest. This was his first investment, and it proved to be a very unfortunate one, as the parties failed, and he lost both interest and principal. During the winter of 1849, he again attended school. In the spring of 1850, he left England for America, landing in New York on the 21st day of May; and, after spending a few days there, he started for Michigan. When he reached Kalamazoo, he had only a half-sovereign and a few shillings. In a few days, he

commenced work at his trade, receiving nearly two dollars per day; but, with the exception of a few pennies to pay postage, he had to take his wages in barter. As an instance, Mr. Harrison accepted a note against an inn-keeper, which he exchanged for a horse; the horse he exchanged for a village lot. In about a year, with a good stock of barter, and one dollar in money, he began working at his trade in Galesburg, Michigan, remaining there seven months. During this time, he earned enough to equal in value two wagons and a set of buggy wheels, and exchanged the wagons for land in Kalamazoo. He then returned to Kalamazoo, taking a contract to make fifty sets of wagon wheels, for which he was to be paid in cash; but, after the work was partly done, the other party refused to carry out his share of the contract. In 1852 he removed to Schoolcraft, where he commenced business for himself, remaining about one year. He then returned to Kalamazoo, bought a shop, and engaged in a business which he carried on for seven years. During this time he invested some money in real estate, which proved a very fortunate investment. In 1857 Mr. Harrison came to Grand Rapids, and engaged in the manufacture of wagons. He has now two hundred thousand dollars invested in his business, and, for several years, his sales have averaged over one hundred thousand dollars a year. His wagons are sent into nearly all the States of the Union. In October, 1852, Mr. Harrison married Miss Rebecca McCullough, who died May 5, 1869. On the 16th of February, 1870, he was married to Frances Adelaide, daughter of Samuel H. Gilbert, originally of Canterbury, England. From these unions, there have been born to him six children. Mr. Harrison has been an active member of the Methodist Church for thirty-two years, and votes with the Republican party. He is a man of integrity and industry, and is persistent in carrying out whatever he undertakes. He is entirely self-made, and is highly respected by all who know him.

**H**ARTER, HARVEY, of Ionia, was born at Herkimer, Herkimer County, New York, November 14, 1824, and was the seventh of a family of thirteen children. His parents were Michael and Abigail Harter. The family were old settlers in the Mohawk Valley at the time of the Revolution. His father died in 1869. His mother is still living at Mohawk, at the ripe age of eighty-nine years, surrounded by a loving family. Harvey lived on the old homestead, and attended school at Herkimer until the age of sixteen, acquiring such an education as the place afforded. On leaving school, he at once entered upon business life as clerk in a store at Little Falls, where he remained three years, until a position was offered on a packet which plied on the canal between Schenectady, Utica, and Rochester.





Engraving of William Henry

Wm. Harrison





For two years he was steward of the packet, after which he held command as Captain for five years; in the winter season obtaining employment as clerk and telegraph operator. But confinement became irksome to him; and, being in correspondence with his brother, Benjamin, who had, for some time, been settled in Michigan, and had already made some purchases of land for Harvey with money which the latter forwarded to him, he was persuaded at length to join his brother in the West, and arrived at Ionia in the fall of 1849. The city was then in its infancy, but Mr. Harter, with characteristic sagacity, saw that it was a location which promised well for future prosperity, and laid his plans accordingly. In concert with his brother, he opened a store, on Main street, where he conducted a successful business for seven years; at the same time having built an ashery, he carried on the manufacture of saleratus and potash, for which Chicago afforded a very ready market. His gains were invested principally in the purchase of farm lands, of which he bought about six hundred acres. After giving up the dry goods business, he devoted a great deal of time to the supervision of all the details of his farming operations. Mr. Harter was pre-eminently fitted to shine in business life. Public office had no charms for him, as he claimed that his business was such as to demand all his attention. He has speculated considerably in land, and in all his transactions, evinced remarkable shrewdness at a bargain, combined with the highest business integrity. He has been actively connected with the First National Bank of the city of Ionia, since its organization, having been a stockholder and its assistant cashier for twelve years; when the decline of his health, from too close application to business, warned him that he must take some relaxation, in order to secure its recovery. He spent two or three years in traveling in various parts of the country, and now, although not as robust and active as formerly, enjoys good health. While not devoting himself to active business life, he makes his influence felt in the community, and enjoys the solid comforts which he has well earned by the energy and determination with which he has conducted all his business ventures. Although he has held few offices of public trust and responsibility, yet wherever he has served in an official capacity he has discharged his duties with intelligence and fidelity. He married, October 29, 1850, Elizabeth M. Babcock, of Ionia, whose father was one of the first settlers in the county. She is a lady of remarkable intelligence, and is highly esteemed in the community. They have a family of four children, three sons and one daughter. Mr. Harter is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and contributes freely to its support. He is agreeable and courteous in his manner, and is highly esteemed as a man and a citizen. His residence is one of the finest in Ionia County.

**HAMILTON, CARLTON J.**, of Muskegon, Michigan, was born January 6, 1835, in Bridgeport, Addison County, Vermont. He was one of the ten children of Amos and Mary Ann Hamilton. He received a good business education in the common schools; and, at the age of twenty-two, went to Chicago, and worked at the lumber business for four years. He then removed to Muskegon, Michigan, where he manufactures lumber extensively, and is the leading man in the firm of C. J. Hamilton & Co. In 1872 he was elected School Trustee, and has retained the office for several years. In 1877 he was elected Alderman of the city. He has been a member of the Masonic Fraternity fourteen years, and was twice elected Master of the brotherhood in Muskegon. He is a man of strictly moral habits, and is liberal in his religious views. He was educated a Republican in politics. As a business man, he has natural ability, combined with practical experience. He is a public-spirited citizen, and has assisted in all enterprises favorable to the growth of the place. He was married to Eliza A. Rohser, of Chicago, in August, 1861. She died in April, 1870. He was married again to Ella E. Moulton, of Muskegon, in June, 1872.

**HAYES, HON. NATHAN BRADLEY**, Farmer and Lumber Manufacturer, of Muir, Ionia County, Michigan, was born in Bristol, Ontario County, New York, December 13, 1835. His father, Heeler Hayes, was one of the pioneers of Ionia County, Michigan, removing there with his family in 1836. At that time the country was a wilderness; the settlements were very far apart, and the Indians were unfriendly. Mr. Hayes' family, for a long time, were obliged to grind wheat in a coffee-mill, because the nearest grist-mill was at a distance of fifty miles. The year of their arrival, a neighboring family was murdered by the Indians. The natural advantages of the county were so great that it soon became more thickly settled, and is now one of the wealthiest in the State. Mr. Nathan Hayes attended the district schools; and, for two years, was a pupil at Olivet College. At the age of twenty-one, he left college, and spent five years in teaching, employing the summer months in farm work. He then decided to devote his time to farming, and also engaged in the lumber business. As his means permitted, he added to his farm lands, until, in 1877, his original farm of forty acres had increased to fifteen hundred,—the largest farm in the county. His sales of lumber are from seven to ten million feet each year. For many years Mr. Hayes has been one of the Directors of the First National Bank of Muir; he was President for two years after its organization, and held

the office of Vice-President until January, 1877. He is Director and President of the Mutual Benefit Fire Insurance Society of Muir. In 1876 he was elected a member of the State Legislature from Ionia County; this is the only political office he has ever held. He is liberal in his religious views, and has never united with any church. In politics he is a Republican. September 1, 1864, he married Mary A. Olmstead, daughter of one of the oldest settlers of Ionia County. They have four sons. Mr. Hayes' success in life is due to his own efforts, and is the result of labor and thrift.

**H**EALD, JOSEPH, Lumber Merchant and Manufacturer, Montague, Muskegon County, was born at Norridgewock, Somerset County, Maine, March 28, 1823, and is the son of Joseph and Sabra (Woodbury) Heald. His father, from about 1818 to 1831, was a prominent lumberman on the Kennebec River, owning a saw-mill at Skowhegan and a farm at Norridgewock. His early education was confined to the common English branches taught in the district schools of Norridgewock and Eddington. He was obliged to do what he could toward the support of the family, and was employed in rafting and running lumber on the Penobscot River in summer, working in the woods in winter, and driving logs in the spring. When he was eleven years old, the family removed to Eddington, where he afterwards became its main support. Between the ages of fourteen and twenty-three, he worked, as a laborer, at logging and lumbering. At the latter age, he began work for himself in logging and manufacturing lumber on the Penobscot River. His saw-mills were at Old Town, and he found a market for his lumber at Bangor. He continued in this business, meeting with fair success, until he was thirty years of age, when he removed to Michigan, for the purpose of conducting the same business in a State in which it could be done to much better advantage and with greater prospects of pecuniary profit. Settling at Port Huron, he engaged in the lumber business, in a small way, for two years. In 1855 he was employed as agent for Messrs. A. A. Dwight and William Warner, of Detroit, to superintend their lumber business, and remained in their employ until the fall of 1860. In the spring of 1857, in company with Messrs. Howell Avery, lately deceased, and Linmore J. Murphy, of Detroit, he explored White River and its surroundings, traveling from White Lake to the head-waters of the river in a canoe,—the first expedition of the kind ever undertaken. In October, 1860, Mr. Heald formed a partnership with Messrs. Avery and Murphy. The firm purchased about twelve thousand acres of the pine land on White River, which they had examined in 1857, together with a saw-mill at

Montague, where Mr. Heald now resides. The first year they cut four million feet of logs,—the first ever put into White River above what is known as the flood-wood and rapids. It was claimed, by all other lumbermen in that vicinity, that the logs could never be driven down the stream; Mr. Heald's fifteen years' experience had, however, taught him that the flood-wood and rapids were not insurmountable barriers. He personally superintended the drive in the spring, and carried it through very successfully, not leaving a single log behind. From that time the business has gradually increased, two mills being now in operation, and the amount of lumber cut annually being fifteen million feet. The firm owns a lumber-yard at Chicago, which handles most of the lumber manufactured at White Lake. Mr. Heald was one of the originators of the White River Log and Booming Company; and, for a long time, has been its President. He has aided materially in the erection of various churches in Montague and Whitehall. On several occasions, he has been brought forward as a candidate for public offices, but has refused to accept any other than that of Supervisor, which he held for one year while a resident of Port Huron, and for two years at Montague. In 1845 he joined the Odd-Fellows, at Old Town, Maine, and resigned membership in 1854, after removing from that place. He has been a Republican since 1856. Mr. Heald was married, November 11, 1853, to Mary H. Bailey, daughter of Amos Bailey, of Milford, Maine. She died February 13, 1867, leaving three children, all of whom are now living. March 11, 1868, he was married to Harriet Woodhaws, daughter of Thomas Woodhaws, of Detroit. They have had three children,—two sons and one daughter. Having begun life without a dollar, and with many obstacles against which to contend, Mr. Heald has acquired a competent fortune through his own exertions. His success may be attributed to his indomitable energy and perseverance, sound judgment, promptness, and practical knowledge of all the details of the business in which he has been for a life-time engaged.

**H**INSDALE, HENRY W., Capitalist, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, oldest son of Hiram and Roxana (Walbridge) Hinsdale, was born in Bennington, Vermont, August 22, 1826, and removed with his parents to Grand Rapids, Michigan, in 1835, where he attended school. In 1847 he entered a wholesale grocery as clerk. Six years afterward, he bought out his employer; and, in partnership with J. H. Dunham, continued the business for three years, when he purchased Mr. Dunham's share, and conducted business until failing health compelled him to sell out and retire, in 1869. In the autumn of 1871, thinking a





Joseph Heald





quiet life and change of business might prove beneficial to him, he removed with his family to Grand Rapids, Michigan. Soon after his removal, the Chicago fire destroyed every building which he owned in that city, his loss being estimated at a quarter of a million dollars. He began rebuilding, and soon several fine blocks of his adorned the city where the fire had brought such ruin. He opened a loan office, immediately afterwards, in Grand Rapids, where he loans money for Eastern capitalists on real estate, and has accumulated considerable landed property, both in that city and Chicago. He was married, in Chicago, in April, 1852, to Eliza J. Chatfield, and has had six children, only three of whom are living. Mr. Hinsdale and his wife are members of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Grand Rapids. Although the greater part of his life was spent in Chicago, he is already widely known, and is highly respected at Grand Rapids, Michigan. By his untiring energy, sterling integrity, and remarkable ability in commercial affairs, Mr. Hinsdale has risen to a conspicuous place among the capitalists of Michigan and the Eastern States.

**H**OUSEMAN, HON. JULIUS, Grand Rapids, was born in Zeckendorf, Bavaria, Germany, December 8, 1832, and is the son of Solomon Houseman, a cotton and linen manufacturer. His mother, Henrietta, was the daughter of Julius Strauss, of Heiligenstadt, Bavaria. Mr. Houseman attended the National Schools of Zeckendorf and Bamberg until he was fifteen years of age. He then spent two years in the study of commerce and the sciences; and, in 1850, sailed for America. Immediately after landing in New York, he went to Cincinnati, Ohio, becoming clerk in a clothing store. In 1851 he went to New Vienna, Ohio, where he remained eight months, serving in the capacity of clerk in a general country store. In 1852 he removed to Battle Creek, Michigan, forming a partnership with I. Amberg in the merchant tailor business; the firm established a store at Grand Rapids, Mr. Houseman taking charge of it. At the end of three years, the partnership was dissolved, and Mr. Houseman became sole proprietor of the Grand Rapids establishment, carrying on the business for nine years. The firm of Alsberg, Houseman & Co. was then formed, and branch houses in New York, Baltimore, and Savannah, were established, and kept up until 1870; Mr. Houseman then sold out his interest in all except the Grand Rapids store, and the firm of Houseman & May was formed, which still continues, doing a successful business. Their sales amount to over three hundred thousand dollars per year. He represented the First and Second Wards of the city of Grand Rapids, as Alderman, for ten successive years, retiring in the spring of 1870. The same season, Mr. House-

man went to Europe, spending the summer in Germany, England, France, and Switzerland. In the fall of the same year, he was elected to the State Legislature; and, while in the Legislative session, was elected Mayor of the city of Grand Rapids. In 1874 he was again elected Mayor; and, during his administration, the present system of water-works was begun, and successfully completed. In 1876 he was nominated for the office of Lieutenant-Governor. On the 10th day of September, 1858, he married Jennie E. Ringuet, of Grand Rapids.

**H**OPKINS, HANNIBAL ALLEN, late of Spring Lake, Michigan, was born in Ulysses, Tompkins County, New York, September 5, 1821.

He was the third son in a family of seven children. His father, Captain Benjamin Hopkins, moved to Canada, in 1831, and from there, in 1837, to Michigan, at a point on Grand River, now the site of the village of Eastmanville. His son early became actively engaged in agricultural and lumber enterprises at Eastmanville and Spring Lake. In 1845, the firm of Hopkins and Brother erected two large saw-mills and entered extensively into the manufacture of lumber. In 1848 Mr. Hopkins was elected Sheriff of Ottawa County. In 1868 he was elected the first President of the village. Both of these offices he held two years. He was the originator of the project which resulted in the discovery of the medical properties of the mineral springs of Spring Lake, in 1870. In politics he adhered to the Democratic party. Mr. Hopkins was a man of high literary attainments. His most marked characteristic was a modest reserve; he never obtruded his opinions or advice unless they were frankly solicited. He was a safe counselor and a warm-hearted, reliable friend. The wants of the poor never appealed to him in vain. Socially, he was genial, tolerant of the opinions of others, and possessed of a fund of information, which made his conversation entertaining and instructive. Inflexible truth and honor were the groundwork of his character. In 1851, he married Emma C. Comfort, sister of Rev. W. Comfort, and removed to Spring Lake, where he died, July 18, 1871, leaving a widow and five children.

**H**ILL, REV. JAMES FERDINAND, of Muskegon, was the son of James and Sarah Hill, prominent members of the Baptist Church, and was born at Thompson, Connecticut, August 12, 1839. His father was devoted to the study of the Bible, which circumstance, no doubt, had an influence in moulding the tastes of this son and in determining his profession. At the age of thirteen, very soon after the death of his mother, Mr. J. F. Hill engaged in a store

in East Cambridge, Massachusetts, and remained there three years. During this period he united with the Baptist Church, and commenced a course of study, at Pierce's Academy, which he was obliged to discontinue on account of failing health. In November, 1856, he removed to Grand Rapids, Michigan, and entered into the employ of Hovey & Co., plaster manufacturers. After working here for some time, he commenced studying for the ministry, under Professor Everett, and then entered Kalamazoo College, from which he graduated in 1863, after a five years' course. He immediately went to Rochester, New York; and, for three years, carried on his theological studies in the seminary. In September, 1866, he was ordained to the ministry at Norwalk, Ohio, and was pastor of the Baptist Church in that town for nearly four years. During that time, one hundred and twenty-four persons were added to the membership of his church,—sixty-seven by baptism, and fifty-seven by letter. In 1870 he removed to Muskegon. The commercial discipline of his early life, his ample collegiate and theological education, and his four years' pastorate at Norwalk, had been an excellent preparation for the work of building up a new church, to which he was called in Muskegon. The society was organized in May, 1870; and, in the following year, a neat and commodious house of worship was erected. One hundred and forty-eight members have been added since that time,—sixty-four of the number by baptism. Mr. Hill is highly esteemed for his excellent judgment, unflinching integrity, and sterling worth. He was married, August 9, 1866, to Lucy S. Burge, an estimable lady, of Napoleon, Michigan; they have one child.

HOWARD, JAMES EARLE, of Flint, Genesee County, Michigan, was born in Genesee, Genesee County, Michigan, January 21, 1848. His parents, Waldo and Lucinda (Parker) Howard, were pioneer settlers in Michigan. His father's death left a young family of five children without any means of support. At the age of eleven, Mr. Howard left school, and made his home with W. I. Beardsley,—at present one of the editors and publishers of the *Flint Journal*,—and very soon after, entered the store of Governor Crapo. In December, 1862, he took the position of news agent on the Flint and Pere-Marquette Railroad, just opened from East Saginaw to Flint. Six months later, he entered the American Express and Western Union Telegraph Office, at Flint; and, in 1865, he was telegraph operator and ticket agent on the Flint and Holly Railway. He remained there until its consolidation with the Flint and Pere-Marquette Railroad, when he engaged with that road. In November, 1869, he accepted the position of traveling auditor on the Fort

Wayne, Jackson and Saginaw Railroad; and, on the President's leaving to build the Detroit, Lansing and Lake, Michigan, Railroad, Mr. Howard went with him, as private secretary. He occupied that position, and also that of pay-master, during the construction of the road. The following notice appeared in the *Flint Globe*, September 21, 1871:

"Mr. J. E. Howard, whom all our citizens will remember as ticket agent of the Flint and Pere-Marquette Railroad, at this point, two years since, has just received a promotion of which any young man might be proud. For some time past, he has been private secretary to the President of the D. L. & L. M. R. R.; but recently he has been appointed to the office of cashier and general ticket agent of the road, with head-quarters at Detroit. Mr. Howard was born and brought up here, and his success is a source of pride to his old acquaintances in Flint."

At the same time, he was also elected Secretary of the Detroit and Bay City Railroad. In the year 1874, he was elected Assistant Treasurer of the D. L. & L. M. R. R., which position he now fills. He has been connected with the company since its organization, and was one of the first officials employed. In politics he is a Republican. He cast his first vote for U. S. Grant. He united with the Baptist Church, in February, 1869. He was married, Tuesday, July 28, 1874, by the Rev. S. W. Titus, to Florence E. Titus, daughter of the officiating clergyman.

HENDERSON, DONALD CAMPBELL, Allegan, Michigan, was born March 20, 1826, in Thurso, Caithness County, Scotland. He is the founder, principal proprietor, and editor-in-chief of the *Allegan (Michigan) Journal*, one of the oldest and most influential Republican papers in the State. Although for many years occupying an enviable prominence as a journalist, he has never had any title conferred upon him; yet he has held honorary public positions in both Michigan and New York. To his editorial contemporaries and personal friends, he is known as Don Henderson. His parents, James and Isabella (Campbell) Henderson, were natives of Caithness, Scotland, and were related to some of the most respectable families of that county, among whom were the Campbells, Sinclairs, and McIvors. His father received a superior education, being intended for the law. When a youth, he was private secretary to Sir John Sinclair, the admirer and correspondent of George Washington. He was cousin and namesake of the renowned British military hero, Colonel James Sinclair. In 1834 he emigrated to America, and was employed, at Hamilton, Canada, and Rochester, New York, in the construction of mills. He settled in Detroit in 1835, and removed to Allegan, Michigan, in 1838, where he assisted in the construction



of the first flour-mill erected there. Subsequently, he engaged in agricultural pursuits, and was identified with farm interests for the remainder of his life. Mr. Henderson possessed a fine literary taste, and evinced a studious interest in every branch of intellectual inquiry, especially of works of a mathematical character. He died, at his son's residence, in Allegan, September 30, 1875, at the advanced age of eighty years. His wife, a highly respected lady, beloved by all who knew her, had died in Trowbridge, May 1, 1872. They had five children,—three sons, Alexander Henderson, Sheriff of Allegan County for two terms; Donald C. Henderson, the subject of this article; James D. Henderson, Captain and Assistant-Quartermaster, United States Volunteers; and two daughters, Mrs. Elizabeth S. Nichols, of Allegan, and Mrs. Anne B. Clubb, wife of Rev. Henry S. Clubb, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, formerly of Grand Haven, Michigan. Mr. Henderson early impressed upon the minds of his children the value of education, and, to him, his son is greatly indebted for his desire for knowledge and his taste for books. When his parents removed to Allegan, Mr. Don Henderson was left in Detroit, to attend the select school of Washington A. Bacon, where he obtained a good education, having for his associates some who afterwards became the first men of Detroit. While pursuing his studies in this school, he was clerk in the theological book-store of Mr. A. McFarran, where the library of the Young Men's Society was kept. Here he enjoyed every advantage for the cultivation of his mind and the gratification of his literary tastes. When fifteen years of age, he went to Allegan, and was placed by his parents in the village academy, where he finished his studies under the tuition of the late E. B. Bassett. He early formed a strong attachment for the standard authorities in English literature. His youthful mind was also well stored with valuable information, gleaned from extensive historical and biographical researches. A close and attentive student, he early formed the habit of reducing his thoughts to writing, in the way of compositions and newspaper articles. Some of these fugitive efforts of the boy-editor were not wanting in marked literary ability. Though naturally rugged, his close study began to effect his health before he was eighteen years of age. In 1842, through the influence of his father, Mr. Henderson obtained a situation in the Allegan *Record* printing office, where he learned the art of typography. His first literary efforts were laid before the public in this paper; they were mostly of a local and ephemeral character. In 1845 a printer was wanted for the Paw-Paw *Free Press*, published by John McKinney, and Mr. Henderson was selected for the place. At the age of nineteen, he was foreman of the *Free Press* office, and made all the literary and news selections for that paper; but, the work being too arduous, he abandoned the printing business, and resumed the position of book-

seller's clerk in Detroit, where he remained until 1847. He then went to New York city, to occupy the position of private secretary to Horace Greeley, who was then chief editor of the New York *Tribune*, and conducted a voluminous correspondence with the leaders of the Whig party throughout the Union. While holding this responsible position, he obtained much general information from the great American editor, which gave him a practical and classical knowledge of the use of language, and the inner workings of politics, of great service to him in after life. Through the influence of Mr. Greeley, Mr. Henderson was subsequently made proof-reader, reporter, and assistant editor of the *Tribune*. In the latter capacity, his duties were confined exclusively to the political department,—revising correspondence for publication, and commenting on the stirring political events attendant upon the anti-slavery agitation preliminary to the formation of the Republican party. He was employed in the *Tribune* office from 1847 to 1855. During his long connection with this great journal, Mr. Henderson enjoyed the entire confidence of its distinguished editor-in-chief, the lamented Horace Greeley, by whom he was promoted, step by step, to a leading position in the political management of the *Tribune*,—a position second only to that occupied by Mr. Charles A. Dana, now of the New York *Sun*. In February, 1856, Mr. Henderson returned to Michigan, and, April 3d of that year, established the Allegan *Journal*, with which he has been connected ever since, except for a brief interval in 1874-5, when he was interested in the Grand Rapids *Daily Times*. The *Journal* ranks as one of the leading political papers of the State, and, in 1873, it took the premium at the State Fair as the best edited and printed newspaper in Michigan. In August, 1872, Mr. Henderson formed a copartnership with Mr. Edwy C. Reid in editing and publishing the *Journal*. Mr. Reid is a young man of much talent and typographical taste. The *Journal* celebrated the twentieth anniversary of its publication by Mr. Henderson, March 18, 1876, appearing in a large double number. Letters of congratulation were received from President Grant, Vice-President Ferry, Secretary Chandler, Governor Bagley, Schuyler Colfax, George William Curtis, Governor Croswell, and a large number of other distinguished military, literary, and public men throughout the Union. In 1855 Mr. Henderson was appointed, by General Leavenworth, of New York, as Secretary of the Board of Census Marshals of New York City, and superintended the taking of the census of that city. After discharging the duties of that office to the satisfaction of the Secretary of State, upon his return to Michigan, in 1857, he was chosen Reporter of the State Senate, and compiled the legislative manual for several years. In 1859-60 he was appointed, by Governor Wisner, State Swamp-Land Road Commissioner, and superintended

the survey of a public highway from Allegan to Traverse City, a distance of two hundred miles,—a public work which has since been completed, and has opened a vast body of public lands to settlement. He was once chosen Coroner of Allegan County, but never qualified. Mr. Henderson has been averse to holding offices of a purely political character, as rather tending to degrade the honorable position of journalism, which he has adopted as a life-calling. Upon the inauguration of President Hayes, he was very generally mentioned for the office of Public Printer at Washington. He was indorsed by the Legislature of Michigan; by a memorial and editorial notices; and by leading men throughout the country. The position, however, had been previously promised to J. D. Defrees. Mr. Henderson has always taken a lively interest in works of public improvement, and has aided the construction of all the railroads centering in Allegan, as far as his means would permit. His paper was the first one to advocate the construction of the Michigan Ship Canal, connecting Lakes Michigan and Erie. River and harbor improvements have ever found in him a zealous and able advocate. For several years during his residence in New York City, he was a member of the Brotherhood of the Union, a secret benevolent and patriotic association. When a member of the New York Printers' Union, he was a delegate from that association to the New York City Industrial Congress, and Secretary of the latter organization. He is now a member of the Independent Order of Odd-Fellows, and several other literary and benevolent societies. Before the war, he traveled through Maryland and Virginia as a newspaper correspondent, and has passed several winters in Washington and Lansing in a similar capacity. As a member of the 3d Michigan Cavalry, he scouted on both sides of the Mississippi River, from Cairo to Texas, and served on the staffs of several of the Union Generals during the War of the Rebellion. He was educated in the most rigid Scotch Presbyterian school, and had, during his stay in Detroit, Hon. Zachariah Chandler as one of his Sunday-school teachers. When a youth, he read many of the standard works of various denominations on theology, and formed quite a taste for dogmatic disquisitions. This metaphysical training greatly strengthened his mind, and imparted a decidedly positive tone to his views on all subjects. He was a Free-Soil anti-slavery Whig in his politics, from his youth up. In 1848 he labored for the election of Van Buren and Adams, on the Buffalo Free-Soil platform. In 1852 he was chosen a delegate to the Pittsburg Free-Soil National Convention, that nominated John P. Hale for the Presidency, but did not accept the appointment, being a warm personal and political friend of William H. Seward. He served as a delegate to the Whig National Convention, held at Baltimore that year, supporting the nomination of Winfield Scott over Fillmore

in that body. In 1860 he was complimented by being appointed, by the National Committee, to serve as a delegate to the Chicago National Convention from the State of Texas, and assisted in the nomination of Abraham Lincoln for the Presidency. Horace Greeley represented Oregon in the same convention. In 1868 he was a delegate from Michigan to the Veteran Soldiers' National Convention, that presented General Grant's name for the Presidency. He was a looker-on at the Republican National Conventions of 1872 and 1876, favoring the renomination of Grant at the former convention, and James G. Blaine at the latter. He has represented Allegan County in nearly every State and Congressional Convention since 1856, except during his absence in the Union Army, in which bodies he has always taken an important part,—serving as a member of all the important committees. He was one of the founders of the Republican party, and was consulted by Mr. Greeley in giving the party its name, when the late Jacob M. Howard, of Michigan, wrote to Mr. Greeley as to the partisan designation to be given to the new party, which was to revolutionize the politics of the whole country, and make it one great and free nation in fact as well as name. The following lines, in the language of James Russell Lowell, are a faithful delineation of Mr. Henderson's (Harry Franco) character as a writer:

"There comes Harry Franco, and, as he draws near,  
 You find that's a smile which you took for a sneer;  
 One-half of him contradicts 'tother; his wont  
 Is to say very sharp things, and do very blunt;  
 His manner's as hard as his feelings are tender,  
 And a sortie he'll make when he means to surrender;  
 He's in joke half the time when he seems to be sternest,  
 When he seems to be joking, be sure he's in earnest;  
 He has common sense in a way that's uncommon,  
 Hates humbug and cant, loves his friends like a woman;  
 Builds his dislikes of cards, his friendships of oak  
 Loves a prejudice better than aught but a joke;  
 Is half upright Quaker, half downright Come-outer,  
 Loves Freedom too well to go stark mad about her;  
 Quite artless himself is a lover of art,  
 Shuts you out of his secrets and into his heart."

During the holiday season of 1877-78, Mr. Henderson made a trip to his old home in Detroit; and, at the request of its leading citizens, prepared an historical sketch of that old city. The sketch was very full, complete, and accurate, and its author was engaged nine days in preparing it for publication. It occupied twenty-five columns of the *Journal*. As an indorsement of his historical efforts, Mr. Henderson has been the recipient of numerous encomiums from the *literati* of the beautiful City of the Straits, for his interesting contribution to the history of the State of Michigan. Probably no editor in the State has warmer friends than Mr. Henderson. Even his most bitter political antagonists are always ready to do him honor. He is a versatile genius, writing with ease, force, and elegance on all







*John F. Holmes*

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political, literary, and historical subjects. He has had an honorable and active service of thirty-five years with the press. Few journalists have exercised their responsibilities with greater conscientiousness and with a larger measure of success.

**H**OLMES, HON. JOHN T., Judge of the Superior Court, Grand Rapids, Michigan, was born at Carlisle, Schoharie County, New York, on the 11th of December, 1815. His father, Daniel Holmes, originally of Saratoga County, New York, was for forty years a deacon of the Presbyterian Church, in Niagara County, New York. His mother, Sally (Taylor) Holmes, was a daughter of John Taylor, who, for many years, was Judge in Saratoga County, New York. Her brother, Hon. John W. Taylor, represented the Saratoga District in Congress for eleven consecutive years, and was Speaker of the House during the Sixteenth and Nineteenth Congresses. In early youth, the subject of this sketch pursued his studies in Niagara County, and in a select school at Cherry Valley, New York. His father intended him for the ministry, but as he was indisposed toward that profession, his father recalled him from Cherry Valley school and put him to work on the farm, where, with slight intermissions, during which he was engaged in other occupations, he continued until he had attained his majority. At Wilson, Niagara County, New York, March 31, 1836, he married Miss Mary Ann, daughter of Nathan Pratt, who, in early life, had fought in the Revolutionary war. The next year, Mr. Holmes decided to emigrate to Michigan, and arrived, with his wife, at Detroit, June 1, 1837. Having spent the greater portion of the intervening time in the southern part of the State, in December he visited Grand Rapids, and, being pleased with the locality, moved there on the 14th of February, 1838, and settled permanently. He first engaged as clerk in a store, where he remained a year. In 1839, he opened a general assortment of goods with Mr. Henry, under the firm name of Henry & Holmes, and continued in this business three years, during which time, as he had sufficient leisure, he read law. Then, selling out his interest to his partner, he decided to devote his entire time to the study of law, and entered the law office of Bridge & Calkins, where he continued as a student until the 17th of May, 1843, when he was admitted to the bar. The death of Mr. Bridge induced Mr. Holmes to enter into partnership with his former tutor, C. P. Calkins, under the firm name of Calkins & Holmes; and, subsequently, for thirty-two years, there was no term of the Circuit Court at which he did not attend, and in which he did not have a number of cases for trial. In 1845 he was elected Justice of the Peace, but, after the third year, resigned this office, and devoted

himself wholly to the duties of his profession. On the 1st of January, 1853, having been elected Prosecuting Attorney, he entered upon the duties of this office, which he held two terms,—four years. In 1860, he was the Democratic nominee for State Senator, and in 1862, was nominated on the Union Democratic ticket for Attorney-General. Although receiving a large and flattering vote, he, in common with the other nominees on the ticket, was defeated. Subsequently, for thirteen years, he would not accept nomination for any political office. In 1875, on the occasion of the organization of the Superior Court of Grand Rapids, he was, by a large majority, elected Judge of that Court, over which he has since continued to preside. Judge Holmes is one of the oldest members of the Kent County bar. He came into the county, and settled at Grand Rapids when it was in a wilderness condition; has grown with its growth, and identified himself with its legal and judicial history. His practice in its courts has been large, and his experience varied and extensive. He regards the legal profession as most important, involving grave duties and high responsibilities. He has been ready to counsel and assist the poor as freely as the rich client. He has probably rendered more legal service without reward or expectation of reward, beyond the gratification which ever attends the generous giver, than any other practitioner of the Kent County bar. Judge Holmes, as a lawyer, was painstaking and careful in the presentation of his cases. His efforts before a jury were usually quite persuasive and sometimes brilliant, winning them by pathos rather than vehemence, leading rather than driving them to a verdict. In this way, his efforts were generally attended with success. As a judge, he presides with dignity and urbanity, and whatever may be the merit of his rulings and decisions, they are always acquiesced in by the bar, as being rendered with entire impartiality. As a citizen, and a member of society, Judge Holmes is highly respected, being affable and agreeable in conversation, even disposed to jocularly with the members of the bar, polished in manners, and of most gentlemanly address; his reputation extends beyond his county and State.

**H**OVEY, WILLIAM, Manufacturer, Grand Rapids, is a native of Concord, Massachusetts, where he was born, in December, 1812. When Mr. Hovey was six months old, his parents removed from Concord, and spent the next eleven years in Lemingburg, Acton, and Charlestown; after four years residence in the latter place, they removed to Cambridgeport, remaining there thirty-three years. His father was in very poor health for a number of years, and in straitened circumstances, and it was necessary for the son to support himself after the age of twelve. He spent

three years as clerk in a book store; but, possessing a decided mechanical genius, he concluded to serve an apprenticeship at the carpenter and joiner trade. In 1852 he went into business for himself, and accumulated several thousand dollars, which he invested in the building of an establishment for the manufacture of sashes, doors, and dressed lumber. In 1843 he lost everything by fire, and found himself deeply in debt. His friends advised him to engage in the business of architecture, for which he had a taste; the venture proved quite successful, but a bronchial affection soon compelled him to seek another climate. In 1856 he removed to Grand Rapids, Michigan; after three months' residence, his health was so much restored that he determined to remain, and engage in the manufacture of calcine and land plaster. In 1860 the Grand Rapids Plaster Company was organized, and Mr. Hovey was appointed general manager and treasurer, which position he still holds. He has been a member of the Baptist Church since 1827; of the First Baptist Church, Cambridgeport, Massachusetts, till 1856, and since that time, of the church at Grand Rapids, Michigan. He is a member of the Republican party, but has always refused political office. July 31, 1834, Mr. Hovey married Sarah M. Stone, of Cambridgeport, Massachusetts. They have had five children, two of whom, a son and daughter, are living. Mr. Hovey is a man of large and generous sympathies, and of an enterprising spirit. He will be remembered in Grand Rapids, where the most of his active life has been spent, chiefly by his connection with the Baptist Church and society; the leading part he has taken, and the sacrifices he has made to promote its interests. He was Chairman of the Building Committee in the erection of their beautiful and commodious house of worship, to which, for six years, he devoted his time and personal attentions, with an assiduity which most men give only to their individual affairs; and the edifice stands as a monument, especially of his taste, and of his energetic and persevering efforts.

**H**OLLISTER, HARVEY J., Cashier of the First National Bank of Grand Rapids, was born at Romeo, Macomb County, Michigan, on the 30th of August, 1830. His father, John H. Hollister, was a Colonel in the War of 1812, under General Scott. He was one of the earliest citizens of Michigan, having come to the Territory in 1825, and assisted in organizing the Territorial Government. In connection with General Burt, he surveyed large tracts of land in Michigan. His mother, Mary (Chamberlain) Hollister, was the oldest child of her parents, originally of Berkshire County, Massachusetts. Still living, about eighty years old, she is a woman remarkable for vigor of character,

kindness of disposition, and strength and fervor of religious faith. The subject of this sketch spent the first seventeen years of his life in his native village, where he helped his widowed mother by working on her farm in summer. In winter he attended school. In 1847 and 1848, he taught school near Romeo; and, in the spring of the latter year, engaged his services as an apprentice to a druggist at Pontiac. In this occupation he continued two years, receiving, in compensation for his services, thirty dollars and his board and lodging the first year, and, for the second year, seventy dollars more. In May, 1850, he went to Grand Rapids and engaged as clerk in the dry goods store of William H. McConnell, where, for one year's service, he received two hundred and seventy dollars. He then took charge of the drug store of W. G. Henry, known as the old Faneuil Hall drug store, and remained in that position one year. Then he accepted an offer from Mr. John Kendall to become a clerk in his dry goods store, at a salary of four hundred dollars, and remained with him one year. In 1853 he entered the banking house of Daniel Ball & Co., and took charge of the business as the chief clerk of that firm. He remained in this position five years; his salary for the first year being six hundred dollars, and for the last, fifteen hundred. In 1858 he entered into partnership with Mr. Ball in the banking business, the company having also two other houses,—one at Ionia, and the other at Lyons. In October, 1861, the company went into liquidation, when Mr. Hollister engaged in the banking business with Martin L. Sweet, Esq., at the stand formerly occupied by Daniel Ball & Co. Here he continued until March, 1864, when the First National Bank of Grand Rapids was organized, and the banking house of M. L. Sweet was merged into it; since which time until the present, Mr. Hollister has been cashier of the First National Bank of Grand Rapids. During those years, Mr. Hollister became connected with several manufacturing companies. He is a large stockholder and director of the Michigan Barrel Company, incorporated, with a capital of three hundred thousand dollars; a stockholder and director of the Grand Rapids Chair Company, incorporated, with a capital of two hundred thousand dollars; and also a stockholder and director of the Grand Rapids Burial Case Company, incorporated, with a capital of eighty thousand dollars. Mr. Hollister has always voted the Republican ticket, but has eschewed politics and political favors and patronage. He is a member of the Congregational Church; has been variously connected with its Sabbath School for twenty-seven years, and for many years he has been its Superintendent; during this period he has also been Secretary and Treasurer of the Congregational Society of Grand Rapids. On the 6th of June, 1855, Mr. Hollister married Martha, daughter of Colonel George G.







Yours always  
J. R. Halder

J. R. Halder & Son, 13 Barclay St. N.Y.



Clay, of Deerfield, Massachusetts. He has four children by this union, one daughter and three sons. Mr. Hollister is a thorough banker,—being master of the business in theory and practice. In his knowledge of the banking system, he takes no second place,—his ready and clear comprehension of all business operations and engagements, contingent or dependent upon the aid afforded by banks, having won for him the entire confidence of his business associates. In disposition, he is gentlemanly and amiable, thus winning friends, and, by his sincerity of behavior, continuing to hold them. A self-made man, as we have shown, he has, by habits of frugality and industry, joined to sound business qualifications and decision of character, risen from obscurity, as a youth, to eminence in manhood; and, while yet in his prime, takes position among the first business men of his native State.

**H**OLT, LIEUT.-GOVERNOR HENRY H., of Muskegon, was born in Camden, Oneida County, New York, March 27, 1831. The next year, his father, Henry Holt, removed to the adjoining county of Herkimer, where he resided, excepting when absent at school, until November, 1852. He then came to Michigan with his father's family. He attended school several years at Fairfield Academy, and one year at Christ's Church Hall, in Pomfret, Connecticut, pursuing the studies usually taught in similar schools, as well as those taught during the first two years of a regular college course. In 1855 he commenced the study of law, at Poughkeepsie, New York, where he remained one year. He then entered Union Law College, in Ohio, from which he graduated in July, 1857. In September of that year, he was admitted to practice, at Grand Rapids, Chief-Justice Martin at that time being Judge of the Circuit Court. In June, 1858, he settled in Muskegon, and opened an office, where he has since continued to practice his profession. In November, 1858, Governor Holt was elected Prosecuting Attorney of Ottawa County, and continued in office until June, 1859. He was then elected to the same position in Muskegon County, which was, about that time, formed from a part of the territory formerly included in Ottawa County. He held the office four years. At the end of that time, he was elected Circuit Court Commissioner for Muskegon County; and, two years afterwards, was re-elected. In 1866 he was elected a Representative to the State Legislature; being re-elected in 1868, he became Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means. In 1870 he was again re-elected, and placed upon the same committee. He was very earnest in behalf of the charitable institutions of the State, and the present prosperity of some of them at least is largely

owing to his assistance in procuring appropriations. In 1872 he was elected Lieutenant-Governor of Michigan, and was re-elected in 1874. Governor Holt has been quite an extensive traveler, having made two trips abroad, during which he visited most of the countries of Europe, including Greece and Turkey. He also visited Egypt and Palestine, and returned with a fine collection of pictures, other works of art, and rare curiosities. He was married, in May, 1867, to Mary E. Raynor, daughter of John T. Raynor, formerly of Lansing. She died July 26, 1872. In February, 1878, Governor Holt was married to Mrs. Catherine E. Hackley, of Muskegon, formerly of Ogdensburg, New York.

**H**OLDEN, EBENEZER GREGG DANFORTH, Secretary of State, Michigan, was the youngest of five sons, and was born February 18, 1834, in a log-cabin of the pioneer settlement in Kirkland Township, Cuyahoga County, Ohio. His parents, Josiah Rhodes and Joanna Reed (Danforth) Holden, were natives of New Hampshire, and were married January 24, 1824. The genealogy of the Holden family is traced back two hundred and sixty-eight years, on the western continent, to three brothers, Richard, Justinian, and Randall Holden, who crossed the ocean in 1609, 1611, and 1612, respectively. They were Puritans, who, according to tradition, escaped from the Tower of London to France, and thence to the New World. All who bear the name of Holden in America trace their ancestry to one of these three brothers, the subject of this sketch being a descendant of Richard. Connected with this family was the Hon. Samuel Holden, President of the Bank of England, who, though he never came to America, erected the Holden Chapel, at Harvard University, in 1744; a picture of which has been secured by the Historical and Genealogical Society of America, at Washington, D. C. Oliver Holden, of Charlestown, Massachusetts, was the author of the world-renowned hymn, "Coronation." He died in 1844, at the advanced age of eighty years. Many facts relative to the family have been obtained by the patient research of Frederick A. Holden, Secretary of the Holden Historical Society, at Washington, who has given more than twenty-five years to the work, and has found nothing of which any man need be ashamed, but much to make any one bearing the name feel justly proud. The direct ancestry of E. G. D. Holden is traced back, one hundred and eighty-five years, to John Holden, who was born in 1692, and was married to Savola Davis, in November, 1715. From the date of this marriage, the line of descent is complete. On his mother's side, the record is not so perfect, but dates back to 1718, when a large number of Scotch-Irish Presbyterians in Londonderry,

in the north of Ireland, united in a petition to "His Excellency, the Right Honorable Colonel Samuel Suitte, Governor of New England," for a transportation to the "Runnymede Plantations" of that country. This petition is dated March 26, 1718, and has appended three hundred and eighteen names, among which is that of James Gregg. He was born in Ayrshire, Scotland, and emigrated with his parents to the north of Ireland in 1690. He was the grandfather of Colonel Ebenezer Gregg, of Revolutionary fame, who was the granduncle of Secretary Holden's mother. To her only brother, for whom her youngest son was named, was transmitted the name of this granduncle. Less than half a year after the birth of E. G. D. Holden, his parents moved further west, and settled eight miles from Joliet, Will County, Illinois, where his father lost his small fortune in the wild-cat speculations of that time. Three years later, the family went South, and settled in the little hamlet of Mooresville, four miles from New Albany, Indiana. In two years and a half they moved north again; and, finally, in 1845, settled in the south woods of Kent County, Michigan, twelve miles from the present city of Grand Rapids. His parents are still residents of Kent County,—his father being eighty and his mother seventy-seven years of age. In the early days of their settlement in Michigan, a log-cabin, eighteen by twenty feet, contained all their worldly goods. They were not afraid of work, however, and their energy supplied them with the necessities of life. At that time, schools were unknown in that section of the country, but the subject of this sketch was an ambitious boy, and spent his evenings in reading and study by the light of a pine knot, thrust between the logs in the broad fire-place. Two years later, in 1847, a school was established in the newly organized township of Byron, within a mile of his home, in which he soon outstripped his teachers. He then engaged in cutting logs and making shingles, at ten dollars a month. In the fall of 1851, with his father's consent, he left home with his scanty wardrobe and a few school books, and went on foot to Grand Rapids, hoping to find a place in which he could work for his board and attend school. He was without money, and knew but two persons in the city. The first day, he was unsuccessful; and, not having means to pay for a night's lodging, returned to his home, wearied by more than twenty-five miles of travel, but not disheartened. The next day he made another effort, and succeeded in finding the situation he sought. Casting the unsatisfactory years of his childhood and youth behind, he now struck out boldly upon his self-reliant course. With characteristic energy, he devoted himself to study and work; and, from this time until he was admitted to the bar, spent every dollar that he could spare from his bare necessities for school tuition and books. In the summer of 1852, he worked under instructions with a master

mechanic, in Grand Rapids, still spending his leisure in study. The next winter he attended the Union School, under the instruction of Rev. James Ballard; and, at the closing of the term,—on his nineteenth birthday,—he delivered the valedictory address. His soul was in the composition, and many are yet living who remember how the young speaker held his audience. He did not revisit the place until twenty-one years from that day, when, at the request of the Kent Scientific Institute, he delivered his celebrated lecture descriptive of his fifty miles' travel through Mammoth Cave, which was as heartily applauded as his first original address had been so many years before. He mastered his trade in Grand Rapids; and, in May, 1853, entered Plainfield Academy, in Illinois, and continued his studies as long as his money lasted, universally standing well in his classes. In the fall of that year, with but twenty-five dollars in his possession, he entered the preparatory class of Knox College, at Galesburg, intending to work his way through. In that endeavor, he found his skill as a mechanic a ready assistant. He worked while his companions played, and studied while they slept, maintaining himself well in all the classes, and taking the lead in rhetorical exercises and debating clubs. In the fall of 1854, after watching with a sick friend for ten nights, during which time he kept up his work and study, he was prostrated by the same disease,—typhoid fever,—and was confined to the house three months. This left him deeply in debt and unfit for study, yet, with returning health, he looked to his trade for relief. In December, 1855, he returned to Michigan, free from debt, with one hundred and fifty dollars in gold in his pocket. His services being immediately sought as a teacher, he gave up with reluctance his partially completed collegiate course, believing he could make his way without a college diploma. He commenced his first school, near the city of Grand Rapids, in January, 1856. He was the third teacher which had been employed that winter,—the first having been driven off by the boys, and the second having failed, on examination, to obtain a certificate. Mr. Holden soon won the firm friendship of the pupils; and, in the spring, closed with an exhibition which made the name of the Lake Shore School familiar all over the country. He immediately after commenced the study of law, which he continued until he was admitted to the bar, March 5, 1859. In the meantime, however, he taught school during the winter, giving lessons in penmanship in the evening, always carrying a law-book under his arm for study at odd moments. In 1856 he took a lively interest in politics; and, being then comparatively unknown, often went ten or fifteen miles on foot to use his influence for J. C. Fremont. Mr. Holden has been on the stump in Kent County and Western Michigan for more than twenty years, and has justly acquired a wide reputation as a



political organizer and speaker. His first public address was a temperance lecture, delivered in 1853. His second was an anti-slavery lecture, in the fall of the same year. He has adhered to the principles enunciated in these first efforts, and has always voted with the Republican party. As a political leader, he is always well informed of the plans of the enemy, while he keeps his own counsel. As a campaign manager, his work never ceases until the ballot-box closes on election day. He knows every point which needs guarding, and never trusts to others what it is possible to do himself,—by his tireless energy, utterly confounding and routing his political opponents. In the campaign of 1872, as Chairman of the Kent County Republican Committee, he carried all of the twenty-four townships in the county, except one, which gave four Democratic majority; and all the wards of the city of Grand Rapids, except one, whose Democratic majority was only five. The average Republican majority in the county that year was about three thousand, while it usually was not more than one thousand. Being denied a place in the army in the War of the Rebellion, he afterwards declined several commissions, and spent most of his time, aside from his official duties, working, with his voice, pen, and purse, to aid the cause of the Union. He was often at the front, where he constantly endeavored to alleviate the sufferings of the sick and wounded. He was in Nashville, Tennessee, on a mission of that kind, when Lee surrendered and the war closed. He counted his time and money as nothing, if they could be of any service to the soldier. Mr. Holden was the first person in Western Michigan, so far as can be ascertained, to give a private soldier personal bounty. This measure afterwards became very popular, and people vied with each other in thus assisting to swell the ranks of the army. In May, 1860, Mr. Holden connected insurance with his law business, and became so thoroughly versed in the business of the underwriter that, in 1866, he was offered a very lucrative position as General Agent of one of the largest New York insurance companies, which he accepted, and held seven years. During that time, he traveled through twenty-four States and two Territories, and took a leading part in many intricate adjustments of losses by fire, in which not only a thorough knowledge of insurance and law was required, but often a large amount of nerve, and ability to read faces and character. He frequently saved thousands of dollars for his company and others, by discovering fraud and punishing transgressors. He is now at the head of one of the most successful insurance firms in Grand Rapids; and, with his present partner, Mr. Sterne F. Aspinwall, a man of rare business ability, not only cares for a large number of local patrons, but also manages the business of several companies for the State. Mr. Holden's name is familiar in insurance circles in New York, Hartford, Cincinnati,

St. Louis, Richmond, Chicago, Memphis, and other cities, of whose insurance corporate funds he has handled more than a million dollars, without having given a bond, his good name being his capital. January 1, 1869, in company with Marcus W. Bates, who was then his partner, he put the Grand Rapids Savings Bank in operation. It was incorporated April 1, 1870, with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars; and, for several years, Mr. Holden was a member of its Board of Directors, and Mr. Bates, its cashier. It is the only incorporated savings bank in the city, and was a necessity. In 1862, two and a half years after he was admitted to the bar, he was elected Prosecuting Attorney for Kent County, and was re-elected in 1864. He was the youngest prosecuting officer the county ever had, and one of the most efficient. The crimes which he was called upon to prosecute embraced nearly all, from murder downward. In trying these cases, he was almost always successful, and many incidents showing his firmness and vigilance might be cited. He was, for six years—from 1870 to 1876—Chairman of the Kent County Republican Committee; and, as such, a political leader of power and influence. He always devoted his time, gratuitously, to earnest efforts in behalf of the cause; and secured, by persistent, enthusiastic, square work, larger majorities than had before been known in his county. In 1874 he was nominated for Secretary of State by acclamation. This was an honor never before given in the history of the State to a candidate for that office the first time he appeared. The convention, that year, was composed of four hundred and twelve delegates, and was the largest State Convention that had, up to that time, assembled in Michigan. Mr. Holden's majority in the election was eight thousand five hundred and fifty-two. In 1876 he was renominated by acclamation—the convention numbering four hundred and fifty-two—and was elected by a majority of twenty-five thousand four hundred and eleven, on a total vote of three hundred and eighteen thousand four hundred and sixty-nine. In the city of Grand Rapids alone, which was at that time controlled by a Democratic Council, he received nearly seven hundred majority; and, in other localities, was far in the lead of any of his competitors. It is simply a matter of history to say that in the election of 1876 his majority was from one to ten thousand more than that of any other candidate or Presidential Elector. He carried with him to the office of Secretary of State the same earnestness and zeal which characterize him in every thing he undertakes. He overhauled the entire department, and worked early and late in utter disregard of office hours. He systematized; designed new books and methods of conducting the business, and put every thing on a new basis. As a consequence, he was soon able to perform all the work of the department with less than half the clerical help he found there.

When he entered, the number of clerks on the pay-roll was twenty-six. Mr. Holden commenced with eighteen; and, at the close of his first term, had only eleven, and one of those a boy. Before he had been in the office three weeks, he put his clerks under rules; increased their hours of labor, and required of them promptness, full time, and strict attention to duty. He brought up work that was far in arrears, and now has the business closed up at the end of each month. In all these reforms he has been ably supported and assisted by his newly appointed and painstaking Deputy, Mr. William Crosby. Mr. Holden soon showed the world that the new Secretary was at the head of the department in fact as well as in name. It was not long before the results of his labor were noted and remarked upon by societies, letters, and the press, from various parts of the State and even from far beyond its limits. Among others is the following extract from a letter written by Dr. L. P. Brackett, of Brooklyn, New York, one of the editors of *Johnson's New Universal Cyclopedia*. It refers to the compilation of the Michigan census of 1874, completed in the first year of Mr. Holden's first term. It is as follows:

"Your own volume, the *Census of Michigan*, from very careful examination and comparison, seems to me remarkably free from errors; and, if you will permit one who has had twenty-five years' constant experience in statistical work to say so, it would do honor to any of our best statisticians in its arrangement, accuracy and fullness of detail. I have no hesitation in pronouncing it altogether the best-prepared of more than twenty State censuses in my library."

As Secretary of State, Mr. Holden is, *ex-officio*, a member of the Board of State Auditors, and has twice been elected its Chairman. As there is no appeal from the decisions of this Board, which passes upon thousands of accounts, amounting, in the aggregate, to half a million dollars annually, it becomes a most important tribunal. Mr. Holden is also a member of six other State Boards, of two or three of which he is Secretary, and has not missed one regular or special meeting of any of them; his rule being to make the people's business his own, and to attend to it faithfully. His own experience in fighting for knowledge has enlisted his earnest sympathies in the cause of education. He was, for many years, a Trustee and Director of the West Side Union School, before the city was consolidated into one district, which change he had always advocated and assisted in bringing about. In the rapid development of the city of Grand Rapids, her schools have kept pace with her other improvements, and, to accomplish these happy results, Mr. Holden has contributed his full share of energy and skill. Within the past ten years, he has acquired a wide reputation as a writer and lecturer. Under the *nom de plume* of "Robert Roland," he has written many humorous, stirring, political and patri-

otic articles, in prose and verse. He is still a hard student, and never knows an idle hour. By his habits of constant work, he often surprises his most intimate friends by the amount of labor he is able to accomplish. Besides being a regular contributor to some of the leading papers of the country, he has charge of the editorial department of a monthly periodical which is published by his firm. He has a fine library of more than fifteen hundred volumes of choice books, among which he spends nearly all his leisure hours. He regards his library as his workshop, and his books as his tools. Mr. Holden is an enthusiastic Odd-Fellow. During his five years' membership, he has received all the honors which the order could bestow. He is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Odd-Fellows' Institute, at Lansing, a property worth from seventy-five to eighty thousand dollars. He was elected, in 1876, for seven years, over many older competitors, and was subsequently chosen a member of the Executive Committee, and Chairman of the same. He is also an officer in the Grand Lodge, and devotes a good deal of time to advancing the interests of the order in the jurisdiction of Michigan. He was taught, when a boy, to respect God and the Sabbath; and, for many years, was connected with the Presbyterian Church, and was Superintendent of the Sunday School. He is a staunch advocate of everything candid, pure, and good; abhors hypocrisy, and has become exceedingly liberal in his religious views. To do good for its own sake, to treat all men as his equals, and to live for his country, are his professions and his practices. He was married, August 24, 1858, in Marion, Wayne County, New York, to Miss Melissa E. Smith, daughter of Samuel and Mary Smith, natives of Massachusetts; they have three children living, two sons and a daughter, the youngest being now eleven years old. Mr. Holden is five feet ten inches in height, and weighs about one hundred and ninety pounds. He has a fair complexion, brown hair, and a keen eye. His head is large and well developed, and his chest broad. Since his college sickness, he has known nothing of disease; and, at the age of forty-three, notwithstanding the multiplicity of his daily duties and the amount of work he has accomplished, he has scarcely a gray hair, and readily passes for ten years younger. He has very pleasant manners, and treats all men alike. In all public positions, Mr. Holden has more than justified the expectations of his friends. As an officer, his ambition has been, by earnest thought, untiring energy, and ceaseless labor, to accomplish all in his power. He is skillful, prudent, and energetic in his business; makes money readily, and has accumulated a comfortable property. His hand and purse are always open to the worthy poor. His hold upon the affections of the people lies in his never forgetting that he is one of them.







Eng<sup>d</sup> by Geo E. Perine N York

*Wm. A. Howard*



**H**OWARD, HON. WILLIAM ALANSON, Grand Rapids, was born at Hinesburg, Vermont, April 8, 1813. His father was Dan. Howard, of Bridgewater, Massachusetts, and his mother was Esther Spencer Howard, of Springfield, Vermont. She was a woman of great energy. Mr. Howard's early youth was a struggle for the common necessities of life. When fourteen years old he went to Albion, New York, for the purpose of learning the cabinet-making business, remaining there nearly five years. In 1832 he went to Wyoming, New York, where he entered the Wyoming Academy. In 1835 he entered Middlebury College, in Vermont, whence he graduated in 1839. John G. Saxe and several other men of distinction were members of the same class. Throughout his college course, Mr. Howard was obliged to support himself, and was in very delicate health; during the latter part of the time, he was unable to sit up an entire day. After graduating, he devoted some time to the recovery of his health, and, the following winter, taught a select school in Genesee County, New York. Being advised to try the climate of Michigan, he removed to Detroit, arriving there on the 12th of April, 1840, with only seventy-two dollars in his possession. He immediately obtained a situation as mathematical tutor in a branch of the State University. As he was occupied only three hours during the day, he commenced the study of law in the office of Witherell & Buel, and was admitted to the bar at Detroit, in 1842. He at once entered into a partnership with Alexander W. Buel, with whom he continued until 1848, when Mr. Buel was elected to Congress. Mr. Howard practiced law under various connections until the year 1854, when he was elected member of Congress, representing the First District of Michigan for three successive Congressional terms; during the whole of this period he served on the Committee of Ways and Means. He was one of the most prominent men in Congress, and a leader of the Republicans in the Northwest. During the first term of his service, he was appointed Chairman of the Kansas Investigating Committee. The report occupies upwards of twelve hundred pages, and was published by Congress in 1856. Mr. Howard was subsequently placed on the Leecompton Committee of Conference, the result of which is well known. In 1860 he was appointed Chairman of the State Central Committee, and held the position six years. From 1872 to 1876, he was a member of the National Committee, and of the Executive Committee of Thirteen. In the winter of 1860-61, he was appointed one of the Committee of Thirty-three, to attempt a settlement of political difficulties. During the same winter, he was chairman of what was known as the Treason Committee, to which was referred the alleged conspiracy to capture Washington and the Southern forts, with other acts of treason. To this committee was given un-

limited power to report, in whole or in part, at any time. In April, 1861, Mr. Howard was appointed, by President Lincoln, Postmaster of Detroit, retaining the office for five years and a half, in which time he aided largely in the enlistment of soldiers. He was removed by President Johnson, and subsequently devoted his time to personal business affairs. In the spring of 1869, he was appointed, by President Grant, Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary to China; this appointment was declined. In May, 1869, he was appointed Land Commissioner of the Grand Rapids and Indiana Railroad Company, and removed to Grand Rapids. Here he organized the land office, which is considered one of the best organizations of the kind in the country. Mr. Howard represented the Grand Rapids and Indiana Railroad Company, the Continental Improvement Company, and the Trustees of the bondholders, until July 1st, 1876, when the companies were forced to accept his resignation, tendered on account of his failing health. He still retains his power to act for the Trustees, representing them in every respect. He was President of the Grand Rapids and Indiana Railroad Company for two years. In 1868 he was chosen delegate at large to the Chicago Convention, and was appointed chairman of the Michigan delegation; in 1872, he was a delegate at large from the State to the Philadelphia Convention, again acting as chairman of the delegation, and being appointed a member of the Committee on Resolutions; in 1876 he was delegate at large to the Cincinnati Convention, acting as chairman of the Michigan delegation. Mr. Howard has been for forty years a member of the Presbyterian Church. On the 1st of March, 1841, he married Ellen Jane Birchard, daughter of Matthew W. Birchard, of Detroit. They have four children, the youngest of whom is at present in the senior class of Yale College. The abilities of Mr. Howard have been recognized in his public efforts, in which he has displayed talents of a high order. He possesses force of character, strength of intellect, and power of logical presentation of ideas.

**H**ILLIARD, CAPTAIN LENSON, was born in Plattsburg, Clinton County, New York, September 7, 1801. His parents, David and Rebecca Hilliard, came from Danville, Vermont. His father was a farmer, and had formerly been engaged in the marine service. Captain Hilliard attended the academy of his native town, after which he began the study of medicine. This he continued for about three years, under his brother-in-law, Dr. Patchin. Disliking the practice of surgery, however, he gave up the profession, and went to Canada, where he took command of one of the barges on the St. Lawrence River, plying

between Prescott and Montreal. In this latter step he was influenced, in a great measure, by an account of the early life of his father. He afterwards bought a farm and settled at Prescott; but, becoming restless in so quiet a life, at the age of twenty-one, he purchased a barge, which he ran successfully for about two years and a half. He then engaged as purser and clerk on the steamboat "Great Britain," and held the position for about three years. In 1828 he became Captain of the steamboat "Brookville." In 1829 he took charge of "William the Fourth," then the largest boat on Lake Ontario. In 1833, he was married to Miss Maria Ann Lee, of the town of William Henry, Lower Canada. Her father, John Lee, was of French extraction, and her mother, Catherine, was of the house of Saxe-Weimar, Germany. Captain Hilliard continued to be interested in steamboats until 1852. During this time he was instrumental in opening the St. Lawrence River to navigation. He performed what had been considered an impossible feat,—that of taking a steamboat over the rapids of the St. Lawrence River. For this he was presented with a valuable gold watch, bearing the following inscription: "Presented to Captain L. Hilliard, by John Hamilton, to commemorate the safe arrival of the steamboat 'Ontario,' at Montreal, from Prescott, United States; having made the first descent by steam over the rapids of the St. Lawrence, August 19, 1840." For a number of years, Captain Hilliard was engaged in the forwarding business, having in charge a large number of vessels, and living in Montreal and Toronto. In 1854 he removed with his family to Michigan. He made a short stay at Battle Creek, engaging in the flour business in a limited way. He then went to Kalamazoo; and, in company with others, engaged in the lumber business at Dorris, Allegan County; but, in the financial crash of 1857, he lost nearly all he had. In February, 1861, he purchased a small piece of land and a saw-mill in the town of Hopkins, and worked earnestly to retrieve his fortune. He made a second purchase of land,—about nine hundred acres,—upon which he realized a net profit of thirty thousand dollars. He still continued to manufacture lumber, and to deal in real estate successfully, until the time of his death, August 2, 1871. He left an unencumbered estate of about one hundred thousand dollars. Captain Hilliard had been a member of the Congregational Church for the last thirty-seven years of his life; he was a faithful attendant and a liberal contributor. He was a Whig, and became a Republican upon the organization of that party, in 1854. Four of his children served in the civil war: William H., as bugler in a company in the 3d Michigan Cavalry, and was afterward placed in the regimental band. He was mustered out of service, with the rest of his regiment, at San Antonio, Texas. David enlisted in the 1st Michigan Engineers, under Colonel Innes, of Grand Rapids, and spent about

one year in that department of the service. Eugene, enlisted March 14, 1863, in the 9th Michigan Cavalry. He served over three years, under command of General George Acker, and was with General Sherman in his memorable march to the sea. He received honorable discharge July 21, 1865. The fourth son, Charles Levi, enlisted in an Illinois regiment, and continued in the service during the entire campaign. Captain Hilliard was strong in his personal friendships, and genial to all.

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**H**ARLAN, BENJAMIN A., of Grand Rapids, Lawyer and ex-Judge of Probate for Kent County, was born at Fallston, Harford County, Maryland, April 16, 1837. He was the eldest son of William A. and Sarah Harlan, now living in Grand Rapids, who are birthright members of the religious Society of Friends. The opportunities for obtaining an education in Maryland in the days of slavery were very limited, and Benjamin A. Harlan received no instruction outside of his father's house, with the exception of a few terms in private schools. However, he managed, by the aid of the Friends' Meeting-house Library, and the newspapers, to acquire some considerable knowledge. In 1853 he moved, with his father's family, to Wayne County, Michigan, where he worked on the farm, and was engaged in the manufacture of brooms and axe-handles. He also attended the district schools a part of two winters. From October, 1857, to July, 1858, he filled the position of Assistant-Postmaster at Farmington, Oakland County; when, through the friendship of Rev. H. L. Hayward, pastor of the Universalist Society at Grand Rapids, he obtained a situation as clerk and student in the office of Holmes & Robinson, attorneys-at-law. Here he diligently applied himself to the study of law until June 5, 1860, when he was admitted to the bar as an attorney. January 1, 1861, he was appointed Deputy Register of Deeds, by John R. Stewart, Register, and held the position ten years. In the meantime, in April, 1862, he was elected Justice of the Peace of the Third Ward of Grand Rapids; and, before his term of office expired, in November, 1864, was elected Judge of Probate for Kent County. He was twice re-elected to that position, by increased majorities, over strong competitors, and held it until January 1, 1877, when he returned to the full practice of his profession. His perfect rectitude and gentlemanly deportment, accompanied by his physical graces and strong intellect, command the respect and esteem of all who come within the circle of his acquaintance. In his dealings, he is upright, energetic, and enterprising,—an example of what may be accomplished by determined industry, and integrity of character. Judge Harlan was married, September 13, 1860, to Miss Ellen M. Blakeslee. They have two children, a son and a daughter.



**H**OWARD, HON. MANLY D., of Holland City, Michigan, was born August 31, 1817, in West Winfield, Herkimer County, New York. His ancestors were Puritans, and were among the early settlers of Boston, Massachusetts. His father, Earl Douglas Howard, was a farmer in one of the southern counties of Vermont, and emigrated to the Mohawk Valley in 1814. His mother, Elizabeth Barlow, belonged to the Barlow family of New England. Earl Douglas Howard served in the War of 1812, and died in 1818. His wife, left a widow with seven children, moved first to New Hartford, Oneida County, New York; then to Rochester; and, finally, to Fredonia, Chautauqua County. She died in 1852, in Alleghany County, Pennsylvania. The subject of this sketch received his early education in Fredonia Academy, an institution supported by State funds and tuition fees. In the spring of 1836, Mr. Howard moved to Detroit, under the care of Doctor Douglas Houghton, State Geologist, by whom he was placed in the law office of Walker & Douglass. Soon after, he was offered a situation in a shipping and commission house in Detroit. In 1838 he was enrolled in the 1st Regiment of State Militia, and, for a week, patrolled the city with the troops, under the direction of the Mayor, in order to protect the citizens and property from what was termed the "patriotic war." About this time he became a member of the celebrated military organization known as the "Brady Guards." From this duty he was soon relieved, by being appointed Deputy United States Marshal of Michigan. This office he held for nearly two years. Through the position of Deputy Marshal, he became acquainted with nearly all the prominent political men of the State, being thrown into social intercourse with the late Governor Stevens T. Mason, from whom he imbibed the principles of the Democratic party. Mr. Howard was married, July 23, 1846, to Sarah Stevens, eldest daughter of the late John Jex Bardwell, of Suffolk County, England, and a niece of the late Sir John Thwaites, for many years Chairman of the London Metropolitan Board of Public Works. After five years—from 1842 to 1847—spent as a member of a prominent produce and commission house at Detroit, Mr. Howard removed to Ann Arbor. Here he remained seven years, spending most of the time in reading law in the office of the late Oliver W. Moore, of that city. At that time he took great interest in political affairs. In 1854, his eye-sight having partially failed, he made arrangements to engage in the lumber business, in and near Holland, where he owned considerable pine and other land. In 1862 he was authorized by the Government to raise a company of men, who, when enlisted, constituted Company I, 25th Michigan Infantry. This company was composed, largely, of residents of Holland. Poor health and business engagements prevented his leading them to service. Mr. Howard was elected, as a War Democrat, to the

positions of Acting Supervisor, member of the Board of Supervisors, and, in 1862, to the Lower House in the State Legislature, to which he was re-elected in 1864. While filling this position, he was a member of the Committee on State Affairs, Harbors, etc., and on several of the important special committees of the House. On the final passage, by the State legislative body of which he was a member, of the Fifteenth Constitutional Amendment, he demanded a division of the question, and voted for the abolition of slavery, in opposition to his Democratic colleagues, but against giving Congress authority to legislate on the same. For the first vote he was censured by a few radical Democrats. He made a successful appeal to the House, just before its final session, to sustain the State institutions—particularly the University and Agricultural College—by voting them the usual annual appropriations. Mr. Howard was elected a delegate to the Baltimore Convention in 1872, as he had been to that at Chicago in 1864, but was prevented, by ill-health, from attending. He heartily indorsed the nomination of Horace Greeley. While in the Legislature, he succeeded in perfecting the title to a grant of about ten thousand acres of land, in aid of Black Harbor improvements; and was, for many years, Secretary of the Harbor Board, under whose direction the improvements were accomplished. In 1867 he secured the passage of a bill for a railroad from Grand Haven, through the village of Holland, to Buffalo, on the line of the Michigan Central Railroad. This road has been successfully built, and is now known as the Chicago and Michigan Lake Shore Railroad. He aided in the construction of the Allegan and Holland, the Holland and Grand Haven, and the Grand Haven and Muskegon Railroads, and was a Director of the first named company. He also assisted in the organization of the Grand Rapids and Holland Railroad Company, and became one of its Directors. In 1843 he became a member of the Odd-Fellows, in Lodge No. 2, at Detroit. In 1845 he helped to organize Washtenaw Lodge, No. 9. He joined the Masonic Fraternity in 1865. Being for some time the only professional man except a physician, within twenty miles of Holland, Mr. Howard's knowledge of the law was frequently called into requisition. For many years he practiced gratuitously; but, as time wore on, a certain amount of practice became a necessity, and, in 1867, he closed his mills and lumber business, and opened a law office, in connection with his land collections and insurance business, in which he had been engaged, to some extent, since 1856. He has always attended the Protestant Episcopal Church; and, while in Ann Arbor, was Treasurer of St. Andrew's Episcopal Society. He helped to organize Grace Church, in Holland, and, for many years, was its Senior Warden. His success in business has been satisfactory, notwithstanding a number of reverses at the outset. In all his

engagements, he has been upright, energetic, and prudent. He is a constant attendant upon all the political conventions of his party, and is familiar with the political history of the State since 1840. Though he has continued, during the last fifteen years, to refuse all public preferment, his influence is felt, and his name is well known to most of the prominent men of the State, particularly in the western and central counties.

**H**OYT, HIRAM J., of Muskegon, Michigan, is the son of Dr. James M. and Margaret Hoyt, and was born March 23, 1843, in Commerce, Oakland County, Michigan. He received his education at the Aurora Academy, New York. After leaving school, he began the study of medicine; but, having a dislike for the practice of the profession, he entered the law office of Hon. M. E. Crofoot, of Pontiac, Michigan, as a student. After three years, he removed, in 1867, to Muskegon, where he now resides. He is a member of the firm of Smith, Nevins & Irwin, and is rapidly gaining popularity in his profession. Mr. Hoyt is a Democrat; and, as such, is candid and free from bitterness. He has taken an active interest in all public enterprises tending to promote the growth and wealth of his city. Possessed of indomitable energy, of unswerving integrity, exemplary in morals, and genial in all social relations, he wins the high regard of his fellow-citizens. He married Ada E. Smith, of Commerce, Michigan, February 26, 1867.

**H**UBBARD, GEORGE E., Hardware Merchant, Grand Haven, Michigan, was born at Hamilton, Madison County, New York, May 3, 1833. His parents, Alonzo and Elvira P. Hubbard, were of English descent. They removed to Detroit, Michigan, when Mr. Hubbard was a child. He was sent to a town in the Western Reserve of Ohio, to reside with his grandparents, who sent him to the district school for six years, and to a select school for three years. His father removing to Cleveland in 1847, he became a student in the Cleveland High School, where he remained until he graduated. He soon after entered, in the capacity of clerk, the hardware store of Parish & Knight, of Cleveland; but, resolving to acquire a more practical knowledge of the business, he became the apprentice of W. L. Marvin. He served the term of his apprenticeship with such satisfaction that, during the last six months, he had the entire charge of his employer's shop. In 1854 he sought employment in Chicago, making the trip from Cleveland by water. He worked at his

trade until the spring of 1856, when he engaged, as head clerk, in the hardware establishment of Christopher Metz, and remained until the fall of the same year. He then removed to Grand Haven, Michigan, and engaged in the manufacture of tin, copper, and iron wares with much success. At the same time he was engaged in the hardware business. In 1860 Mr. Hubbard was appointed the first agent of the American Express Company, located west of Grand Rapids. In 1870 he began, and in 1871 finished, the erection of the first three-story brick house in Grand Haven. This he has since occupied as a hardware store. The completion and occupation of this building was the occasion of a celebration, and the gathering of a large party of friends, numbering nearly two thousand, who came from various parts of Michigan, Illinois, Ohio, and Wisconsin. Mr. Hubbard was elected Mayor of Grand Haven, in 1872, and was re-elected for the following term. With this exception, he has declined office. He is regarded as one of the most prominent citizens of Grand Haven. He has encouraged every enterprise calculated to advance the interests of the city. In business records, Mr. Hubbard ranks as one of the leading hardware merchants of Western Michigan. In the spring of 1856, he married Miss Christina A. Landreth, daughter of John Landreth, of Cleveland, Ohio.

**H**UDSON, JOSEPH LOWTHIAN, of Ionia, Michigan, was born in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, October 17, 1846. His parents, Richard and Elizabeth (Lowthian) Hudson, emigrated to America in 1855. They spent five years in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, and then removed to Michigan. They lived for a short time at Grand Rapids and at Pontiac, and finally settled at Ionia, where Mr. Hudson entered into partnership with C. R. Mabley, now of Detroit. Joseph L. Hudson attended school in England, Canada, and Grand Rapids. On the removal of the family to Pontiac, he entered the clothing-store of C. R. Mabley, as errand-boy. He spent five years in Mr. Mabley's employ, having been engaged two years as book-keeper. In 1866, in his twentieth year, he purchased Mr. Mabley's interest in the branch store at Ionia, and formed a partnership with his father, under the name of R. Hudson & Son. This firm is now a leading one in Ionia. On the death of his father, which occurred in 1873, he carried on the business in company with his brothers and sisters for three years. He has now a branch store at Stanton. He was also associated with H. F. Bush & Co., and, afterwards, with Taylor, Hudson & Co., from 1868 to 1876, in the stove business. From 1869 to 1875 he was interested in the firm which carried on the "Novelty Flour Mills." He has also invested





collection of the nests and eggs of Michigan birds, which he recently presented to the Kent Scientific Institute, of Grand Rapids. Among scientific men, Mr. Hughes is known as the ornithologist of Michigan. Among the interesting particulars of his active professional life, we may state that in each of the last twelve capital cases in which Mr. Hughes has been counsel for the defense, he has been successful. Some of those cases are among the most noteworthy which have occurred in the Northwestern States; among which may be mentioned that of George Vanderpool, of Manistee, Michigan, who was acquitted on the third trial. In this case, on the second trial, at Kalamazoo, Mr. Hughes' argument was perhaps the finest he ever made; its logical arrangement and forcible presentation of facts making it, in the opinion of the bar, a masterpiece. It is not, however, as a criminal lawyer that his talents find single expression. He prefers cases of a civil character, of which he has successfully tried a large number. Among these may be mentioned the Duncan will case, at Marshall, and the Ward will case, at Detroit. In these, as in nearly all of the most important suits in which he has been engaged, Mr. Hughes has been confronted by able counsel, and none award him higher rank in his profession than those with whom he has contended. It is but justice to Mr. Hughes to say, in conclusion, that he is entitled to rank among the ablest of lawyers. His general culture is broad, while his legal learning is not confined to his knowledge of mere reported cases, but embraces as well the elements and principles upon which the science of law is based. He speaks with grace and dignity, evincing thought and reflection. His advocacy is impressive, his language incisive, his sentences complete, his eloquence simple but effective, his conclusions logical. His grasp of the points of a case is complete and vigorous, and he exerts his utmost power to persuade and convince the court, giving effectiveness to his argument by his masterly expression. Perfectly understanding the value of collected ideas, discipline, expression, and art in argument, his method is direct, and his every sentence both graces and advances the cause he advocates.

**H**UMPHREY, SEYMOUR B., Agent for the Northwestern Transportation Company of Grand Haven, Michigan, was born in Oconomowoc, Waukesha County, Wisconsin, May 31, 1848. He is the son of Samuel B. and Annie M. (White) Humphrey. His father went to Oconomowoc in the year 1842, where he bought lands, and helped largely in building up the town. He erected a large flour-mill, and engaged in the milling business until his removal to Milwaukee, in 1850, where he followed the same occupation for twenty-one years, and retired in 1871. His son, Seymour, was

educated at Milwaukee, taking an academic course, which he completed at the age of seventeen. He then engaged in the flour-mill with his father, until 1871. At that time, the Engelman Transportation Company secured his services as book-keeper, and, in 1873, he removed to Grand Haven, as agent of the said company in that city. In 1875 the interests of the Engelman Transportation Company were purchased by the Northwestern Transportation Company, of Milwaukee. Mr. Humphrey still retains his position as their accountant, and has transacted the business with credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of his employers. Mr. Humphrey takes a great interest in athletic sports. Rowing is one of his favorite amusements; he is Secretary and Treasurer of the Grand Haven and Spring Lake Rowing Company. Mr. Humphrey is genial in temperament, energetic in business, and honorable in all his transactions. The record of his youth furnishes a solid foundation on which to build up his fame in the future.

**J**OHNSON, GEORGE KINNEY, M. D., Grand Rapids, was born in Cayuga County, New York, on the 17th of January, 1822. His parents were natives of that State. He came to Michigan with them in 1836; and, for three years, lived on a farm, in Livingston County, and entered heartily into the work of building a home in the then new country. During this time, he availed himself of every opportunity for self-improvement, reading with the greatest avidity every book that chanced to fall in his way. At the close of his term of service on the farm, he went to McNeal's Academy—as it was then designated—at Ann Arbor, which he attended two years. After this, he taught school for some time, in order to obtain means to pursue his studies; and subsequently, he attended, for one year, a classical school at Northville. His professional studies were prosecuted in the offices of Dr. Curtis, of Kensington, and Dr. Ira Bingham, of Brighton, Michigan, and lastly, with Prof. John Delamater, of Cleveland, Ohio. He graduated at the Cleveland Medical College in the spring of 1846, and soon afterward began the practice of his profession at Pontiac. Zeal and industry brought their usual reward, and he soon found abundant professional occupation. But those years spent at Pontiac were years of hard, unremitting toil, and his naturally weak constitution sunk under it. His health at last required a change of residence, and, for a time, a partial change of occupation. In 1852 Dr. Johnson removed to Detroit, where he resided two years, and engaged less laboriously in practice. In 1854 he removed to Grand Rapids; but, being then in very feeble health, he denied himself occupation to any extent in his profession; and, so far as his health would





Eng by E. G. Williams & Bro NY

G. K. Johnson. M. D





permit, engaged in railroad and other interests. He was, at this time, identified with the measures and means which combined to build the Detroit and Milwaukee Railroad. In 1857 he visited England, where he remained several months, studying carefully the institutions of that kingdom; the practical working of its government; the character of its people, and their social condition; the places and objects of historical interest; the hospitals and schools of medicine, in which were seen and heard some of the leading medical men of the century,—all engaged his attention, and excited his interest. Meanwhile, these agreeable studies gradually improved his physical condition; and, in 1860, his health having been restored, he resumed the practice of his profession at Grand Rapids. In 1861, moved by that impulse which swayed the people of the Western States, in common with those of the North and East, after the first Bull Run disaster, he entered the military service; and, in September, of that year, he went out as Surgeon of the 1st Michigan Cavalry. During the following winter, he was with his regiment on the Potomac, and near Frederick City, Maryland. In the spring and summer of 1862, that regiment took an active part in the campaign of General Banks in the valley of the Shenandoah. Dr. Johnson was present at the first battle of Winchester, in March, 1862, and witnessed the complete defeat of the enemy under Stonewall Jackson. On that occasion, he was almost the only Union surgeon on the field. In truth, at that early period of the war, the medical department of the army was imperfectly organized, and not fully adequate to the duties required. Subsequently, however, all this was changed, and the service became very efficient. At the close of General Banks' campaign, Dr. Johnson's regiment was ordered to report for duty with the command of General Pope, who then began to organize those movements from which so much was hoped, but so little realized. Here the doctor was assigned duty, as Surgeon of Brigade, on the staff of General John Buford, who commanded the cavalry of General Pope's army. In that capacity, he served throughout the Pope campaign in Virginia, in 1862. The cavalry service, we may here remark, was, during that campaign, one of constant activity, excitement, and danger; and the campaign culminated in the defeat of the Union forces, at second Bull Run, August 30, 1862. On that field, Dr. Johnson experienced the grief of seeing his beloved and lifelong friend, Colonel T. F. Brodhead, of the 1st Michigan Cavalry, fall mortally wounded. By the terms of an act, passed in February, 1863, Congress created a special corps of eight Medical Inspectors, of whom four were to be taken from the regular army, and four from the volunteer service. Those inspectors were to have the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, which was then the highest rank in the medical service, except that of its head, the

Surgeon-General. Dr. Johnson's record was so satisfactory that he was at once selected as one of the four inspectors taken from the volunteer forces, and commissioned, by President Lincoln, accordingly. He was immediately assigned to duty, as Medical Inspector of the Army of the Potomac. That army was then in winter-quarters, on the lower Rappahannock, and covered a large area of country. It was the duty of the Inspector to make monthly inspections of the medical service and of the sanitary condition of the entire army, and to render written reports of these to the commander in the field, and, also, to the Surgeon-General, at Washington. Thus the labor and responsibility devolving upon this office were very great. In the spring of 1863, Dr. Johnson accompanied the Army of the Potomac in the campaign of Chancellorsville. He was on duty during the campaign, and also during the subsequent toilsome marches and maneuvers which consumed the early summer months. At length, the army reached Gettysburg, and there met the Confederate troops, under General Lee. Dr. Johnson witnessed the sanguinary struggles of the 2d and 3d of July, and had the satisfaction of seeing the decisive repulse of the enemy; but the amount of work that devolved upon the medical officers, as the result of these engagements, was appalling. He took his share of this work, and remained on the field several days after the battles; and, having discharged that duty, rejoined the army on its return march into Virginia. Later in the season, he was, at his own request, relieved from duty in the field, and appointed Medical Inspector of the Middle Military Department, and of the Department of Virginia and North Carolina. His duty here was to inspect the general field and post hospitals, from Baltimore to Fortress Monroe; and from the latter to Newbern, North Carolina, in one direction, and to Cumberland, Maryland, and Wheeling, West Virginia, in the other. While thus engaged, at the large general hospital at Frederick City, Maryland, in June, 1864, he accidentally fell into the hands of the enemy. From their lines, he witnessed a part of the battle of Monocacy; at its close, he was permitted to go upon the field, and attend to the Union wounded who had been left uncared for; the Confederate officers having, for this purpose, furnished him with two ambulances. He was kept busy with the affairs of the general hospitals of his departments until October, 1865. On the first of that month, he resigned his commission; and, soon after, returned to his home, where he resumed his practice as surgeon and physician. In his profession, he is studious and progressive. He is a contributor to the medical journals, and has written and published several pamphlets on medical topics. The leading medical journals, and the most recent medical works, are to be found on his study table or in his library. He aims to keep himself informed of all discoveries and

improvements, and to avail himself of them in his practice. Yet he is careful and conservative, and does not abandon old and well-tried remedies and methods until the superiority of new ones is clearly established. Dr. Johnson has always been a Democrat, but is not a politician. He takes a deep interest in public affairs; and, while he dislikes office-seeking and office-seekers, he respects that sentiment of patriotism which leads one to take an interest in the affairs of the country. In 1859 he was elected Mayor of Grand Rapids, and served one term, but declined a re-election, and has since steadily refused nomination for any political office. On the 23d of September, 1847, Dr. Johnson married Miss Adeline M., daughter of the late N. P. Stewart, Esq., of Detroit, Michigan. Two of their children—G. Stewart Johnson, a surveyor and engineer, and Mrs. Mary Kendall, widow of the late George F. Kendall—are now living. Dr. Johnson is a gentleman of attractive presence, calm and courteous under all circumstances, and fond of society; although, by the imperative calls of a large practice, he is much debarred from its enjoyment. His house is the scene of an elegant hospitality, which is much enhanced to his guests by his presence. The high esteem in which the community hold him, and his remarkable popularity with all classes, are manifested in the numerous offers made to him of official positions, which the duties of his profession compel him to decline. His literary culture and powers of logical reasoning are particularly evident in "The State and Its Relations to Medical Education," an address recently published, which is destined to work great changes in the educational system of Michigan. In brief, the Doctor is a scholar. As a surgeon and physician, he adds large experience to originally thorough, and steadily maintained, study of theory; while, as a citizen, he fulfills every public duty incumbent on him, and gives his best influence and efforts to all institutions of learning and religion.

**J**UST, JOSIAH E., Cashier of the First National Bank of Muir, Ionia County, was born December 20, 1847, on the farm still owned and occupied by his parents, in the township of Otisco, Ionia County. His parents were James and Jane (McClure) Just. A sketch of his brother, William J. Just, also appears in this work. He attended the common school until he was twelve years old. He then worked on his father's farm in summer, and went to school in winter, until he was eighteen, when he obtained his first insight into the banking business, by serving as clerk for three months in the First National Bank at Lowell. The confinement becoming irksome, he returned to his farm work. After one summer, he went to Chicago, and became clerk

in a store, where he remained only one month, and again returned home. Soon after, in January, 1870, he was appointed cashier of the banking house of S. W. Webber and Co., at Muir, where he remained about three years. At the end of that time, he was elected cashier of the National Bank of Lyons, in which Mr. S. W. Webber was a large stockholder. He held this position until the bank was removed to Ionia. He was then elected cashier of the First National Bank at Muir, which position he has now occupied for five years. Mr. Just has held the position of President of the village of Muir, and is now a member of the Board of Trustees. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias, and is now Past Chancellor. In politics, he votes and works for the Republican party. He is outspoken in his political opinions, and gives enthusiastic support to his party. He was married, July 29, 1875, to Ella V. Fox, daughter of Matthew H. Fox, of Muir.

**K**IDD, HON. JAMES M., the present Mayor of Ionia, was born, November 13, 1813, in the Township of Montgomery, Orange County, New York, where his father, William R. Kidd, and his mother,—whose maiden name was Elizabeth Morell,—had long resided. His father was born in the same house where he himself first saw the light. His earlier years, until the age of fifteen, were passed, alternately, in labor upon his father's farm and in attendance at the common schools of his native town. It was only during the winter months, when there was but little farm work to do, that he was permitted to enjoy the meager privileges of a country school; and, as after his fifteenth year he gave up school altogether, it will be seen that his education was not what would be called "liberal" in these days of high schools and colleges. In 1830 he removed with his parents to Michigan, settling near Pontiac, where he remained until 1836. He then went to Ionia, where he soon after engaged in the manufacture of fanning-mills, a business which he followed successfully for many years. In 1845 Mr. Kidd purchased a saw-mill and a tract of pine land on Flat River, at the point now known as Kiddville, on the Detroit, Lansing and Northern Railroad, where, for nearly twenty years, he was regarded as one of the most active, energetic, and enterprising among that hardy race of Michigan men,—the pioneer lumbermen. The financial pressure of 1857-8 was a severe blow to him, but he managed to weather the storm, only to see the hard earnings of a life-time swept away by fire in 1861. With the indomitable energy for which he was remarkable, he set to work and was soon on his feet again. In 1863 he went to Ionia, and a second time engaged in the manufacture of fanning-mills, etc., in which he has continued until the



present time. His business has, at times, been of enormous magnitude, and his sales have aggregated many hundreds of thousands of dollars. His goods have found a market in twenty different counties, which have thus paid tribute to the enterprise of Ionia. During the years immediately succeeding the war, he paid the Government, for excise taxes, a much larger sum than any other manufacturer in Ionia County. Scores of laboring men have, year after year, in times past, found employment in his manufactory; thus providing for their families, and adding to the prosperity of the city. Perhaps no one man has done more to promote the permanent growth of Ionia than the subject of this sketch. Many old citizens who have known him as "Captain Kidd" are ignorant of the origin of that military title. He was commissioned by Governor Mason, in 1835, as Captain in the 4th Regiment of Michigan State Troops; and his company was called out during the famous "Toledo War," which originated in a dispute concerning the boundary line between Ohio and Michigan. This trouble was settled without bloodshed, and he never had any further experience in active warfare. His tastes were always military, however, and only his age and the impossibility of leaving his business kept him from taking arms for his country in 1861. Although politically opposed to the administration, he contributed liberally to the cause of the Union; and, having only one son old enough to enlist, gave him every aid and encouragement to respond to the call of patriotism. Mr. Kidd is a Democrat, and was an ardent admirer and supporter of Stephen A. Douglas. He cast his first ballot for the admission of Michigan to the Union, in 1835, and, the following year, voted for President Van Buren. Although always an active partisan, he has never been an office-seeker, and has often stubbornly refused to permit his name to be used. He has sometimes, however, found himself, *volens volens*, on the ticket, and has been the Democratic nominee for the Legislature in both of its branches. His personal popularity has always caused him to run ahead of his ticket. In 1874 and 1875 he represented his ward in the City Council. In 1876 he was elected Mayor on the Democratic ticket; and, in 1877, was re-elected without opposition,—being the nominee of both parties. Since 1871, Mr. Kidd has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He was married in 1839 to Miss Jane Stevenson, daughter of Jesse Stevenson, of Ionia. She is now living in her sixty-first year. Mr. Kidd is a man of fine physique, nearly six feet in height, and, although sixty-four years of age, is well preserved. In his younger days, he was noted for his horsemanship, and would mount the wildest and most fractious horse, and ride like a Centaur. As a driver, he was well known in the ante-railroad days throughout the Grand River Valley; and the writer has often seen admiring crowds gathered in front of the Rathbun

House, in Grand Rapids, as he reined up his team of spanking bays after a thirty-mile drive. At one period of his life, he owned a span of beautiful black horses, of great speed and endurance, which he drove from one point to another, as business called him. A certain gentleman of his acquaintance used to aver, with great solemnity (referring to a heavy overcoat of a peculiar bright blue color, which he wore, and to the swiftness of his steeds), that when Mr. Kidd passed, he could actually see nothing but a "blue streak." After the advent of railroads, horses were less useful; and it is now many years since he has indulged his tastes in this direction.

**K**IDD, COLONEL JAMES H., of Ionia, Michigan, was born in that city, February 14, 1840. His parents were among the earliest settlers in Ionia County. His father, James M. Kidd, emigrated to Michigan from Newburg, New York; and, since his residence in Ionia, has twice been honored with the position of Mayor of the city. His mother, Jane (Stevenson) Kidd, was a native of Windsor, England; and, when in her fifteenth year, left her home to come to the New World. After he had availed himself of the educational advantages which the common schools afforded, Mr. Kidd's early education was further advanced by a three years' course at the State Normal School; he then prepared for college, under the tuition of Professor Joseph Estabrook, at Ypsilanti Seminary. He entered the classical department of the University of Michigan in 1860; but the civil strife which commenced in the succeeding year, transforming so many of our quiet citizens into brave and resolute soldiers, was not without its effect on Mr. Kidd. His taste for a military career early showed itself at the University, where his knowledge of tactics gave him the rank of officer in what was known as the "Tappan Guards," and brought him to the notice of the military authorities of the State. This secured him an entrance into active military life, with the rank of Captain of Company E, 6th Regiment, Michigan Cavalry, which he was instrumental in raising, and which bore its part in the struggle in General Kilpatrick's (afterwards Merritt's) division of General Custer's brigade. After a winter in Washington, Captain Kidd was ordered to the field, and was actively engaged in the Gettysburg campaign, taking part in every engagement. At Falling Waters, the last of sixteen battles fought in fifteen days, he was severely wounded. For his gallantry in that engagement, he was promoted to the rank of Major, July 14, 1863, and joined his regiment in October of that year. In July, 1864, he received his commission as Colonel. In addition to the battles of the Gettysburg campaign, Kilpat-

rick's raid, the Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Sheridan's raid, Cold Harbor, etc., Colonel Kidd bore a conspicuous part in all the operations in the Shenandoah Valley, under General Sheridan. At the battle of Winchester, September 19, 1864, he was again wounded; and on the promotion of General Custer, he was appointed to succeed him in the command of the Michigan brigade. While at the head of his men, at the battle of Cedar Creek, October 19, 1864, he had two horses shot under him. He was soon after recommended, by Major-General Merritt, for appointment as Brigadier-General; this, however, the War Department did not grant. Colonel Kidd remained in the service until after the surrender of General Lee, at Appomattox Court House. At the close of the war, he was brevetted Brigadier-General "for gallant and meritorious conduct in the Shenandoah Valley." Colonel Kidd's military record includes sixty engagements in all. After the surrender of General Lee, Colonel Kidd's command was ordered West, to take part in the Indian war,—going by rail and river to Fort Leavenworth, and thence by a long and difficult overland march, *via* Fort Kearney, Julesburg and Fort Laramie, to Powder River, Wyoming Territory. In this expedition, Colonel Kidd was in command of the left column, under General P. E. Connor, and was detailed to establish a post of supplies, and build a fort. This undertaking he successfully accomplished, and the flag of the 6th Michigan Cavalry was raised over the completed fort, which was then designated Fort Connor, but is now known as Fort Reno. For his former companion in arms, the gallant and dashing General Custer, Colonel Kidd ever cherished the warmest feeling of admiration. This was enhanced by an intimate personal friendship which existed between them; he mourns the brave soldier's untimely fate as if he had lost a brother. After the expiration of his term of service, in the fall of 1865, he returned to Ionia, and engaged in a manufacturing business with his father. Although the years ordinarily spent in college were passed by Colonel Kidd in the exciting scenes of the battle-field, his subsequent career has proved that a military life did not unfit him for the more sober duties of the private citizen, nor render the drudgery of business distasteful to him. Although he has not yet reached the prime of life, he has acquired a competency, and devotes much of his leisure time to the books which he put aside at the call of duty. In 1867 he received the appointment of Register in the United States Land Office, which position he held for two terms of four years each. In all public enterprises which tend to improve the city, or increase its growth, he has always been interested, and to them has lent his hearty co-operation. He is an independent Republican; his first vote was cast for Abraham Lincoln in 1864. He has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church of

Ionia since 1871. In the Masonic Fraternity, which he joined in 1862, Colonel Kidd has been Eminent Commander of Ionia Commandery for seven years; and, in 1874, held the office of Junior Warden of the Grand Commandery of the State. He married, December 25, 1871, Florence S. McConnell, of Ionia, granddaughter of Judge Mundy, formerly of Grand Rapids and Ann Arbor. They have no children.

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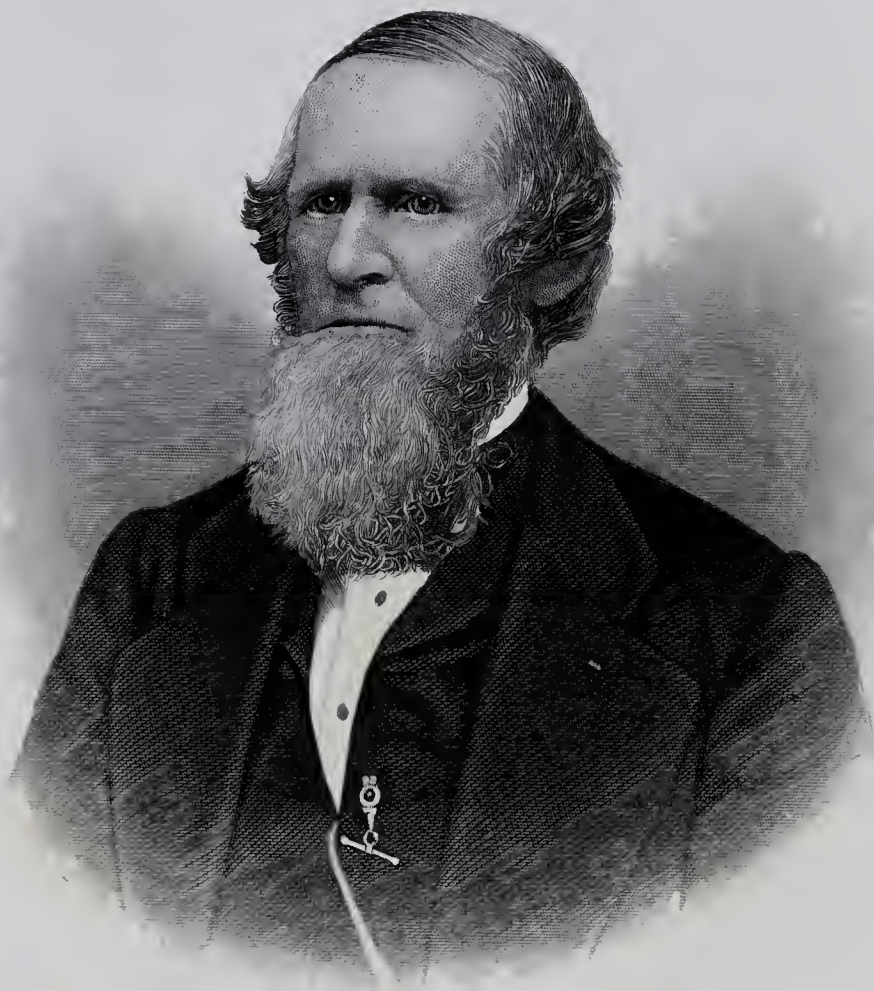
**K**USTERER, CHRISTOPHER, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, is the son of Jacob Kusterer, of Gumpelscheuer, Wurtemberg, Germany. He spent his boyhood in his native place, attending the public school. After having been confirmed in the Lutheran faith, in which he was baptized and brought up, he was apprenticed to a brewer of Freudentstadt (a town eighteen miles from his home), in his fourteenth year, to learn the brewers' trade. The next seven years were spent in his apprenticeship, and in working at his trade. At the age of twenty-one, he returned home, in obedience to the laws of his country, to run the risk of being chosen for a soldier. Not being drafted, however, he determined to seek his fortune in the New World, and embarked for New York, where he arrived in 1845. His mind having been fixed on Michigan, he left New York, and started for that State, stopping at Ann Arbor, where he was employed in Mr. Kern's brewery for nearly two years. Here he made the acquaintance of Miss Mary D. Dauble, whom he afterwards married. Not long after his marriage, he removed to Grand Rapids, where, in 1877, he became established in a large brewery, which he himself had built on Ionia street in 1849. His firm integrity and strict attention to business have placed him in the front rank of the business men of Grand Rapids, and have won for him the esteem of his fellow-citizens. He has a large amount of real estate, besides extensive interests in the Grand Rapids Hydraulic Company, and in the Star Flour Mills. Mr. Kusterer is a Democrat in principle, but always votes for the best man. He is a loving and faithful husband, and a kind father to his children, of whom eight are now living.

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**LEE, DR. FRANCIS G.**, of Portland, Michigan, was born in Penn Yan, Yates County, New York, August 7, 1822. He was the son of Thomas and Asenath (Winants) Lee. His father was a Major in the War of 1812, and a member of the New York Legislature at the time the charter was granted for the Erie Canal. He removed to Michigan in 1824, and was Sheriff of Wayne County when it embraced the whole







Yours Truly  
A. B. Lincoln



of the State. He was also elected to the Legislature from Washtenaw County. After Mr. Lee had finished an academic course at Ann Arbor, he studied law. He was admitted to the bar, at Green Bay, Wisconsin, and afterwards, at Howell, Michigan, and practiced three years at Mason. He then studied medicine at Western Reserve College, Ohio; commenced its practice at Portland, Michigan; and, with the exception of one year and a half spent in California for his health, he has never left his duties. He has been Town Clerk of Portland; has held the position of Justice of the Peace four years, and that of Postmaster eight years. Mr. Lee contributed liberally to the building of the Detroit, Lansing and Lake Michigan Railroad, and also to the Marshall and Coldwater Railroad, which is not yet completed. In the year 1861, he was made a Free Mason. He has been Master of the Blue Lodge, High Priest of the Chapter, King under Dispensation, and T. I. G. M. of the Council. He cast his first vote for James K. Polk, and works with zeal in behalf of the Democratic party. He is a Trustee in the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he has been a member for sixteen years. Doctor Lee has been married twice; first to Julia M. Bogue, and, after her death, to Louisa L. Bogue—both daughters of a well-known merchant of Portland.

**L**EE, CAPTAIN SETH, Muskegon, Michigan, is a native of Elyria, Ohio, where he was born January 14, 1833. He was one of a large family, and was compelled to leave school at the age of nine years to seek employment. For two years he worked at farming or any thing else he could find to do; studying during the evenings, and, when out of employment, attending school in the winter. A brother's tales of the sea intensified the desire for a sailor's life, which had been the ruling passion of his boyhood. In 1844, then only eleven years of age, he went to Huron, and succeeded in securing a position as cook on a vessel, which was under the command of his brother-in-law, Captain John Peterson. During a period of eleven years, he served in every capacity from cook up to mate. From 1855 to 1857, he was Captain of the schooner "Tartar." In the spring of 1858 he took command of the schooner "Cuba," trading from Chicago to Oswego. He continued trading in different vessels, most of the time at the above ports, until 1872, when he removed to Muskegon, Michigan, and engaged in the lumber trade from that port. In 1875 his sight became impaired to such an extent that he feared some accident might endanger the lives under his charge. During the thirty-one years of his life on the lakes, he had been mercifully spared from all disasters, and he preferred to run no risks in the future. The position of superintendent of the float-

ing property of the Muskegon Booming Company was offered him; he accepted, and has since retained it. Captain Lee is a Republican. He is a member of the Masonic Fraternity, which he joined in 1854, at Milan, Ohio. July 28, 1855, he was married to Miss Fina Mills, who died July 8, 1873, leaving one daughter. Captain Lee was again married, August 19, 1874, to Miss Kittie M. Haight, of Buffalo, New York.

**L**INCOLN, DR. W. B., of Ionia, Ionia County, Michigan, was the third of nine children of James and Lucy (Whitcomb) Lincoln. His father was a native of Massachusetts, and his mother of New Hampshire. Soon after their marriage they emigrated to Vermont, and settled in the township of Peru, Bennington County, where the subject of this sketch was born, December 29, 1807. With the exception of about seven years in the State of New York, he spent most of his time in Peru until he was seventeen, laboring and attending school, alternately, as opportunity offered. About this time, on the advice of friends, he concluded to qualify himself for teaching, and soon acquired a competent knowledge of the branches usually taught in the common schools. From that time until he had completed the study of his profession, school teaching was his usual occupation during the winter, and labor on the farm in haying and harvesting time. After having finished his preparatory studies, he entered the office of Dr. Abraham Lowell, of Chester, Vermont, as a student. Having completed his three years' term of study, and attended two courses of medical lectures at the Clinical School of Medicine, in Woodstock, Vermont, he graduated in May, 1832. In the summer of that year he practiced at Manchester, Vermont, and taught during the winter in the same place. In the following spring he visited Boston, and shortly after his return, set out on horseback on a prospecting tour. On his arrival in Herkimer County, New York, he learned of the formation of the Dexter Colony, whose destination was Ionia County, Michigan; and, visiting Mr. Dexter at his residence in Schuyler, he decided to accompany them. Accordingly, they left Utica, April 25, and arrived in Ionia, May 28, being one month and three days on the way. The entire Grand River Valley below Jackson was then an unbroken wilderness, inhabited only by Indians and wild beasts, with the exception of now and then an Indian trading station. On arriving here, and viewing as best he could the surroundings, he concluded to cast in his lot with the colony, and make Ionia his future home. His residence here now covers a period of nearly forty-five years. For the first year or two of his professional services in this county, his time not being fully occupied, he turned his attention, in the

intervals of leisure, to whatever would best subserve the interests of the colony. Year by year, as the settlement extended, his business also extended. For several years he was the only physician in this region, and frequently traveled into adjoining counties, a distance of forty miles. For many years he traveled mostly on horseback, and not infrequently found it necessary to ford Grand River when the current was deep and strong. Sometimes, in the winter, when it was not possible to cross the river with a horse, on account of the condition of the ice, he has gone on foot from thirty to forty miles to visit the sick. In addition to his profession, he has been engaged considerably in farming; also, in the drug business, in company with P. C. Hutchin and Peter Hacket. In 1834 he built the first frame house in Ionia County. He was married, July 5, 1835, to Anthy P. Arnold, a daughter of Oliver Arnold, one of the original settlers and a member of the Dexter Colony. They were the first white couple married in Ionia County, and have since that time resided there, with the exception of four years spent in Berlin, Ottawa County. Mr. Lincoln was elected the first Township Clerk of Ionia, the township then embracing the entire county. The first township meeting was held at the German Indian trading station, six miles up the river from Ionia, April 6, 1835. While a resident of Berlin, Mr. Lincoln was elected Justice of the Peace, School Inspector, and Assessor. He was a Whig during the existence of that party, and, when it disbanded, became a Republican; though not an active politician, he was decided in his political views. He has been a member of the Baptist Church in Ionia since its organization in 1834. He was its first Clerk, and, subsequently, one of the Trustees and a Deacon for many years. He has a family of four children,—three daughters and one son,—all married. The first daughter, Julia E. Lincoln, was born in Ionia, September 30, 1836, and was married to Virgil S. Eastman, of Waterville, Oneida County, New York, July 3, 1854. The second daughter, Marietta, was born in Cass (now Berlin), Ionia County, August 25, 1838, and was married to Dr. H. B. Barnes, of Ionia, July 18, 1861. The third daughter, Jennie, was born in Ionia, November 15, 1853, and married to George W. Neller, of Ionia, September 3, 1873. The eldest son, William Tully Lincoln, was born in Berlin, Ionia County, December 1, 1840. The second son, Horace Greeley Lincoln, was born in Ionia, November 12, 1842, and died in Kalamazoo, April 25, 1860, having gone there to complete his education. His long residence in Ionia, and his eminent social and professional abilities, have made Dr. Lincoln's name a household word in his own section. He will long be remembered as a man loyal to his God, a true friend, a kind husband and father, a Christian gentleman, and an earnest worker in all enterprises for the general good of society.

**L** EITELT, ADOLPH, of Grand Rapids, was born January 13, 1833, at Kratzau, Bohemia, the birthplace of a long line of his ancestors. His father was Joseph Leitelt, and his mother, Barbara, was a daughter of Jacob Truebel, all of Kratzau, Bohemia. According to the law of Austria, Mr. Leitelt and his seven brothers attended the National Schools at Kratzau, from the age of six to fourteen years. He then became an apprentice to his father in the locksmith business, in which he continued until he was twenty-one years of age, when he left Bohemia for the United States. During the voyage the weather was so tempestuous that one of the engines of the steamer broke down, leaving the passengers at the mercy of the waves for three days. At the end of this time, the engines having been repaired, they were enabled to proceed on their voyage. He arrived in New York on the 28th of September, 1853, and remained there about a year, working at his trade. During the latter part of the year 1854, he came to Grand Rapids, and was employed as a machinist until 1860; he then went to Grand Haven, and accepted the position of foreman for Mr. William M. Ferry. He remained there two years; and, in 1863, returning to Grand Rapids, engaged in business for himself. He erected buildings for a foundry and machine shop, which were afterwards consumed in the conflagration of 1870, his loss being twenty thousand dollars. Since Mr. Leitelt has been in business for himself, he has manufactured upward of two hundred engines and more than that number of boilers. He has added to his business the manufacture of brass goods and of a steam heating apparatus for public buildings, factories, and private dwellings; and, connected with the manufacturing, he has a store for general mill supplies. He gives employment to nearly one hundred men, and his manufactures have found their way into most of the Eastern and Western States. In 1873 he received, from Governor Bagley, a commission to visit the Vienna Exposition, in behalf of the State of Michigan. From 1870 to 1874 he was an Alderman of the city of Grand Rapids, and holds that position at the present time. His political views are those of the Democratic party. On the 4th of October, 1859, he married Theresa, daughter of Edward Ansorge, of Grand Rapids, originally of Engelsberg, Bohemia.

**L**ITTLEJOHN, JUDGE F. J., of Allegan, was born in Herkimer County, New York, in July, 1804. He graduated from Hamilton College in 1827, and delivered the valedictory address. In 1830 he was admitted to the bar. He practiced law at Little Falls, in his native county, until the spring of 1836, when his health failed, and he sought a home in the West. He settled in Allegan, Michigan, being among the pioneers



of that section of country. He was engaged for some years as a surveyor, engineer, and geologist. In the fall of 1841, he was elected to the Lower House of the Legislature, and was afterwards chosen for a second and third term. In 1845 he was elected to the Senate. He was President *pro tem.* of that body during the lengthy session of 1846, when the revised statutes of that year were adopted. He was again returned to the House, in 1848, and sat as a member during its first session at Lansing. He was also elected to the same body in 1855. As a legislator, his labors have been arduous, and his influence salutary. He was the originator and chief advocate of many measures which, having become laws, have strongly aided the growth and development of the State. In the interval between his last two elections to the House, Mr. Littlejohn returned to the practice of his profession, in which he has also been engaged for the last ten years. In 1858 he was elected Circuit Judge of the Ninth Circuit. This circuit had been newly organized, and embraced, territorially, some twenty counties, viz: those lying along the eastern shore of Lake Michigan, from Van Buren to Emmett, besides the contiguous inland counties. No reliable means of public conveyance then existed,—there were even no roads,—and the performance of his duties was, therefore, difficult. In 1875 or 1876, Judge Littlejohn prepared the material from which an historical work on the Northwest was compiled. Of late years, he has held aloof from politics. He is now somewhat advanced in years, but still takes an interest in public affairs. He lives in Allegan, and is highly respected there and wherever he is known.

**L**YON, TRUMAN HAWLEY, Proprietor of Sweet's Hotel, at Grand Rapids, Michigan, was born at Parishville, St. Lawrence County, New York, on the 24th of February, 1826. His parents, Truman H. and Lucinda (Farnham) Lyon, were originally from Shelburn, Vermont. In June, 1837, the family removed to the then new State of Michigan, and settled in Ionia County, in the locality subsequently known as Lyons, from their having been the original settlers. In 1841 Truman H. Lyon removed to Grand Rapids, where he became a prominent citizen, holding successively the offices of Postmaster and Judge, and, in 1850, was elected to the State Senate. His family comprised seven sons and one daughter, all of whom, except two sons and the daughter, are living, and in independent circumstances. During his residence at Lyons, Mr. T. H. Lyon obtained, at the district school of the settlement, a limited education; but, during his subsequent life, acquired the education of an intelligent and well-informed man. Desirous of pushing his fortune while yet a youth,

he left his home at Grand Rapids, in 1844, and, going to Detroit, engaged as bell and errand boy in the National Hotel, where he afterwards became head clerk. In 1847 he entered the employment of his uncle, who was proprietor of the Michigan Exchange Hotel, as confidential clerk, and remained until 1850. He then returned to Grand Rapids, where he served as clerk in the dry goods house of William L. Warring nearly two years. In 1852 he went to Chicago, Illinois, for a few months, as book-keeper for O. Jackson. He afterwards went to Three Rivers, Wisconsin, and there remained two years, as book-keeper of Aldrich, Smith & Co., lumbermen. In 1854, in partnership with his brother-in-law, George B. Morton, at Kalamazoo, he leased the Kalamazoo House. After having kept it three months, they accepted a proposition from the owners whereby their lease was canceled, and they received a profit of five thousand dollars. With his partner, Mr. Lyon, in the spring of 1855, bought an interest in four stage lines, all running from Grand Rapids, in which they employed about one hundred and fifty horses. The Government contract for carrying the mails, which formed the basis of this business, expiring with the completion of railroads in 1859, they sold their interests. Then Mr. Lyon engaged in the drug business at Grand Rapids, and continued in it until 1861, when he leased the Rathbun House, built a brick block adjoining it on Monroe street, and bought a quarter interest in what is known as the property of the Island Company; this consists of nine acres of land in the center of the city, adjoining and connected with the east bank of the river. It was laid out in city lots and streets; and, mainly by his untiring exertions, was prepared for market. At the present time, this property is nearly covered with handsome buildings; among others, the Kent County Jail, one of the finest buildings in the city, regarded from an architectural standpoint. In this way, Mr. Lyon has become a public benefactor. In 1864 he became a stockholder in the First National Bank of Grand Rapids; and, since 1869, has been one of its Directors. In March, 1870, he bought the furniture and lease of Sweet's Hotel, of which he became proprietor. Since then, he has won for it, by his good management, a large share of the public patronage; the house, since that time, having been regarded as a first-class hotel, and the best in the city. In 1874 he built another large store on Pearl street, on part of his island property, which pays him a handsome rent. He has filled no public office, never having taken any active part as a politician; but has devoted himself freely to every enterprise calculated to benefit the city of Grand Rapids. He is connected, as a stockholder, with the Kalamazoo and Grand Rapids Division of the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railroad; also, with the Grand Rapids and Newaygo Railroad, and the Grand River Valley Railroad. He is

also a stockholder, and was, for several years, a Director of the Grand Rapids Chair Company. In November, 1851, Mr. Lyon married, at Grand Rapids, Miss Delia, eldest daughter of Russell Morton, and sister of his subsequent partner, George B. Morton, a well-known citizen of Grand Rapids, since deceased. From this union were born two children, when, shortly after the birth of the second, Mrs. Lyon died. Two years afterwards, Mr. Lyon married Miss Eliza Blair, of Grand Rapids, a sister of James Blair, Esq., member of the law firm of Blair, Stone & Kingsley. They have one daughter, who now, at the age of eighteen years, is an accomplished young lady. From this brief sketch, it will be observed that Mr. Lyon very properly takes position in the list of self-made men. From a youth without means, and with but very limited education, he has become one of the solid men of Grand Rapids; while his character for probity, and as a most obliging and efficient landlord of the first hotel in the city, is as well known as the house in which he so successfully presides.


**L**OVELL, HON. CYRUS, of Ionia, Michigan, was born in Grafton, Windham County, Vermont, September 9, 1804. His parents, Enos and Mary (Grant) Lovell, were both of New England origin. His father was a farmer. Mr. Lovell attended school at his native place until 1814, when the family moved to Chester, Windsor County. There he finished his academic course. After several years spent in legal and other studies, first in Springfield, Vermont, and afterwards in Northampton and Rockingham, he, in 1829, emigrated to Michigan. He touched at Detroit, then a small French settlement of seventeen hundred inhabitants, and finally settled at Ann Arbor. In 1831 he married Louise Fargo, who still survives, and went to Galesburg, Kalamazoo County. In 1832 he built the first frame dwelling-house in Kalamazoo. The same year, he spent forty days in the Black Hawk War, and received a bounty of one hundred and sixty acres of land for this service. While at Kalamazoo, he filled the offices of Justice of the Peace, Prosecuting Attorney, and Supervisor. In 1836 he settled permanently at Ionia, and devoted himself to his profession. In 1837 he was chosen the first Supervisor of the township of Ionia. In 1848 he was elected to the Legislature, and served on the Judiciary Committee and the Committee of Banks and Incorporations. In 1850 he was a member of the Constitutional Convention. During a second term which he served in the Legislature, in 1855, he was Speaker of the House of Representatives, and filled the position with ability. In politics, he was first a Whig, and afterwards a Republican until 1860, when he voted for Stephen A. Douglas. He has since worked

and voted for the Democratic party. Mr. Lovell ranks among the foremost lawyers of Michigan, and has no superior in the qualities necessary to a mastery of the scientific principles of the law. His fund of scholarly and general knowledge is rich and varied. He has retired from active professional duties. Of Mr. Lovell's family of three sons and eight daughters, only four daughters survive.

**L**YON, HON. LUCIUS, whose property and residence, in private life, were principally at Grand Rapids, Michigan, was born at Shelburn, Vermont, on the 26th of February, 1800, and died at Detroit, September 24, 1851. His father, Asa Lyon, of Shelburn, Vermont, was esteemed a man of sound judgment. His neighbors referred to him for counsel in their difficulties, and were usually governed by his decisions. His mother was Sarah, daughter of Ambrose Atwater, of Wallingford, Connecticut. Some of his ancestors were among the original settlers of New Haven. Mr. Lyon, as a child and youth, was educated in the common schools of his native town; and he entered, when approaching his majority, upon the study of engineering and land surveying in the office of John Johnson, Esq., of Burlington, Vermont. At the age of twenty-two years, with a thorough knowledge of that business, he went to Detroit; and, his professional skill becoming known, he was soon afterward appointed by the United States Surveyor-General one of his deputies for the district north-west of the Ohio. In this office, Mr. Lyon continued until 1832. While still engaged in its duties, he was informed that he had been elected a delegate from the then Territory of Michigan to the Congress of the United States. He accepted, and remained in Congress until the first convention was assembled to form a constitution, with which the State of Michigan applied for admission into the Union. Of that convention, Mr. Lyon was a member; and his course was signalized by his influence in procuring the adoption of those provisions respecting the common-school lands, which made the funds accruing therefrom a sacred and permanent trust, by which the endowment has become so large and beneficial. The first Legislature which assembled in Michigan chose Mr. Lyon as a Senator in Congress,—an honor due to his character and services in behalf of the new State, and to his general knowledge of the condition and necessities of the North-west. Mr. Lyon continued in the Senate until 1839, when he withdrew to Grand Rapids, then a village of a few hundred inhabitants, where he owned a large portion of the property. Impressed with the belief that extensive saline deposits underlay the land of the village, he was active and liberal in making efforts to develop and establish the manufacture of salt; and, for a few years, he was



successfully engaged in this enterprise. In 1842 he was nominated and elected by the Democrats of the district as their Representative in Congress. Upon the expiration of his term, he was appointed by President Polk to the office of United States Surveyor-General for the States of Ohio, Michigan, and Indiana. At his request, and as a condition of acceptance, the office was located at Detroit. He filled it until his death, which occurred in 1851,—his experience as a surveyor in early life, and as a member of the Committee on Public Lands, in both Houses of Congress, remarkably qualifying him for the discharge of its duties. Mr. Lyon was not a brilliant man, nor rapid in his mental action; but, by being patient, carefully observing, and deliberately considering all subjects which were submitted to him, he generally reached a correct conclusion, and was especially able to make practical applications of results. Thus, in his favorite line of study, natural and mechanical science, he became a proficient, and a peer of those who had enjoyed far superior educational advantages. The extent of his knowledge and his capacity for action were sometimes obscured by his modesty. From the unpretentious and silent man, but a tithe of that influence and achievement was expected which he was found to have wielded and accomplished. He was amiable, benevolent, and religious; and, in the later years of his life, found rest, satisfaction, comfort, and joy, often fervently acknowledged, in that form of Christian faith taught by Swedenborg. From his first appearance in public life, until his death, a consistent Democrat, he was unwavering in his political principles and associations. He never married,—his housekeeping, until his death, having been superintended by a maiden sister, who yet survives him. In conclusion, it may be said that to no other statesman whom Michigan has produced and sustained in office, does she owe more than to the delegate, Representative, Senator, and private citizen, Hon. Lucius Lyon.

UCE, RANSOM C., Retired Merchant, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, was born at Middleburg, New York, on the 28th of February, 1822. His parents, Marston C. Luce and Rebecca W. Throop, were married, at Courtland, Vermont, in September, 1819, and had two sons and two daughters prior to their emigration to Detroit, in 1832. During the three years of their stay there, the subject of this sketch was sent to school, where, however, he was permitted to remain but two terms. At the end of that time, on account of the failing health of his father and brother, he was obliged to work, in support of the family, at anything he could get to do. In 1835 they removed to St. Joseph County, and from there, in 1841, to Grand Rapids, where they kept the Rathbun House, and, subsequently, the Eagle

Hotel. On account of the illness of his father, brother, and two sisters, the whole care of the house fell to him and his mother. Thus matters continued for about two years, when he decided to open a grocery store as preferable to keeping a hotel. His father and brother continued sick until 1845, when, within a few months of each other, they died. In the course of the year following, both of his sisters died. Thus, within about a year, the family was reduced to Mr. Luce and his mother. In 1850 he married Miss Sarah H. Gregory, who lived for fourteen years his faithful wife, and became the mother of five children, four of whom are still living. In 1864, in her death, he and his children mourned the loss of an affectionate wife and mother. Eight years afterwards, Mr. Luce married, at Grand Rapids, Miss Charlotte C. Montague, a native of Chittenden County, Vermont, and, by this union, has had one son,—a child of much promise. After the death of his father, brother, and sisters, Mr. Luce, finding the business in which he had been recently occupied more profitable than any other known to him, continued it for seventeen years, and attained remarkable success. He then decided to engage in the dry goods trade, which he carried on successfully until 1871, when, having attained a competency, he retired from active business as a merchant. He has since confined his operations to real estate, of which he owns a large amount; most of it very valuable. In 1856 he built the largest block used for stores, offices, and a public hall, then in the city. It fronts on two streets, and is five stories high above the basement. On the same street, which is the principal business street of the city, he built another block, which is known as the Fremont Block. He was one of the founders of the City National Bank of Grand Rapids, and has been a Director of it continuously since its institution. As we have plainly shown, Mr. Luce is not indebted to friends or relatives for his success in life. He inherited neither influence nor capital. Nothing but earnest labor and untiring industry could have overcome the privations and difficulties which beset him, and have gained for him that which he has won. In his triumph, he stands to-day a living and eminent example of a truly self-made man. His life and success afford a valuable example to every young man, and special encouragement to him, who, amid the most untoward circumstances, is determined to succeed. It is the record of such lives, which this book affords in brief, that makes it valuable to every young man and woman who may peruse it. In politics, Mr. Luce, except in the affairs of the city, and as a member of the Union League during the war, has taken no prominent part. In 1856 he was elected Alderman of the ward of his residence, and was re-elected regularly for fifteen years; always exhibiting a thorough appreciation of the duties of his office, and attending to them with fidelity. Since then, he has

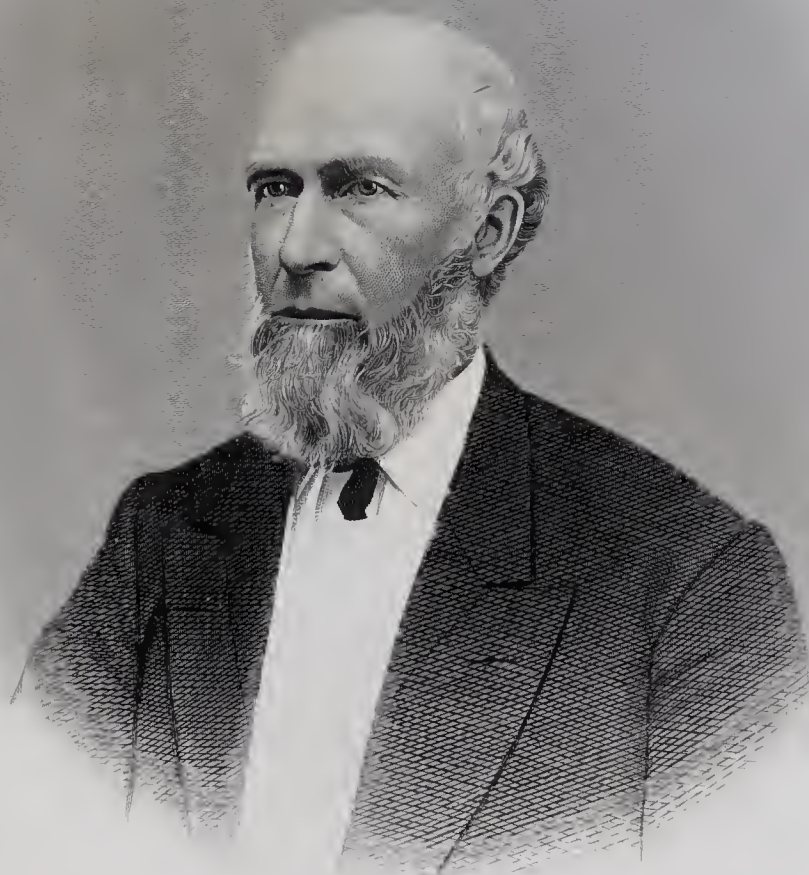
held no public office. He votes with the Republican party, and has been a member of it since its organization. He is not a member of any secret society. Since retiring from the City Council, and from active business, he has devoted his time to the details of the management of his real estate. It is needless to add that he is held in high regard by his fellow-citizens, with whom he is ever ready to engage in movements calculated to benefit the city.

LOVELL, LOUIS S., Judge of the Eighth Judicial Circuit, of Michigan, was born at Grafton, Windham County, Vermont, November 15, 1816. He was the second son of Don and Mary (Shafter) Lovell. His father was a carder and cloth-dresser, and, in the later years of his life, a manufacturer. In the spring of 1817, the family moved to Springfield, in Windsor County, where they remained until they went West, in 1841. In early boyhood he attended the district school, and assisted in his father's factory. He was afterwards a pupil at Chester and at Bellows Falls, and graduated, in 1836, from Middlebury College. He went South in the fall of that year, and was engaged in teaching in the State of Georgia till 1838. He studied law in the offices of Judge Closson, of Springfield, and D. E. Wheeler, of New York. His father died in 1839. He settled the estate, and, in October, 1841, went to Ionia, Michigan, where his mother and the family had preceded him. He was admitted to the bar shortly after his arrival, but both business and pay were poor. He attended to his first suit with fear and trembling, and his first fee was a swarm of bees. He was married, in 1842, to Mary Thayer, of Hoosick Falls, New York. They have three children,—two sons and a daughter. In 1849 he was appointed, by President Taylor, Register of the United States Land Office, at Ionia. During a part of 1850 and 1851, he acted as Judge of Probate of Ionia County. In 1857 he was elected Judge of the Eighth Judicial Circuit, and was re-elected successively in 1863, 1869, and 1875. He is now one of the officers of the First National Bank. He takes a lively interest in all matters that affect the prosperity and credit of the county or city. In addition to his judicial duties, Judge Lovell finds leisure to devote to the cultivation of fruit. In his political sentiments, he is a Republican, in the best sense of the word, but is not an active politician. He is a Presbyterian, free from bigotry and far removed from cant of any kind. As Register of the United States Land Office, he was a cautious and thorough officer, and his knowledge of law enabled him to be of great service to the Government. He was called to the bench to succeed one of Michigan's eminent judges, the late Hon. George Martin, first a Circuit Judge and then Chief-Justice of the Supreme Court. He entered upon its arduous duties with little

practical experience, but with a mind thoroughly imbued with the weight and importance of his responsibilities. He rapidly mastered the details of judicial duty, and won the good will of a bar composed of some of the ablest lawyers in the State. Kent, Ionia, Barry, Montcalm, and Clinton counties have been at times in his circuit; and among its practitioners were men of unsurpassed ability and learning, over whose deliberations, animosities, and forensic displays, Judge Lovell presided with a dignity and impartiality that won the respect of both lawyers and clients. Judge Lovell is a plain, unaffected gentleman, eminently social and truly Democratic. He is charitable in his views of men and manners, and may truly be classed among the distinguished self-made men of Michigan.

LOWING, STEVEN L., Lawyer, of Grand Haven, was the son of Isaac and Lavinda (Lanyrman) Lowing, and was born in Gainesville, Wyoming County, New York, January 15, 1817. He attended school between the ages of five and seven years, and, when twenty-one, spent two terms at a select school. He worked in a brick-yard from the time he was eight until he was fourteen, after which he spent four years on a farm. In September, 1836, he removed to Michigan, and was employed in a saw-mill, in Grand Haven, until June, 1837, when he returned to the State of New York. In 1861, upon the breaking out of the Rebellion, he was carrying on an extensive lumber business, which he immediately discontinued in order to enter the army. He organized a military company, in which, out of one hundred and five men, sixty-three were over six feet high. This company became a part of the 3d Michigan Infantry. Mr. Lowing was enrolled First Lieutenant, but soon took command of the company. He was actively engaged in the battle of Fair Oaks, in which he was severely wounded; also, in the battles of Seven Pines, Mine Run, the first battle of Bull Run, Locust Grove, and Williamsburg. In the important battles of the Army of the Potomac, his company performed most of the picketing, skirmishing, and opening of the encounters. In the spring of 1862, he and his company were detailed to run a saw-mill at Yorktown, three-quarters of a mile from the rebel battery. From this mill, they turned out eighty thousand feet of lumber in a little over three weeks, notwithstanding the continuous play of the enemy's shells. In 1863 Captain Lowing was relieved from service, on account of his wounds, and remained in the barracks, at Detroit, three or four months. After that time, he again engaged in the active duties of a soldier until the close of the war. He was admitted to the bar, in Grand Haven, Michigan, in 1866. After practicing





Engr'd by L. C. Williams, N.Y.

Very truly yours  
Loris Lovell





alone for a time, he entered into partnership with Messrs. Angel & Cross, and carried on a fine business. The firm has since been changed to Lowing & Cross, Mr. Angel having withdrawn, and is very successful. From time to time, Mr. Lowing has held the position of Judge-Advocate, for which he is admirably adapted. In March, 1870, he was married, at Jamestown, Ottawa County, Michigan, to Emily Markman, a young lady of culture. In his religious views, he is liberal and rational. He was educated as a Democrat, but, since the organization of the Republican party, he has been an advocate of its principles. He has always labored for the good of humanity, but has never solicited public office. He attributes his success in life, in a great measure, to his habits of strict temperance.

**M**ATTER, ELIAS, Manufacturer, of Grand Rapids, was born in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, October 6, 1833. His parents, Joseph and Catherine (Schupp) Matter, were both natives of Dauphin County, where they married and went to live on a farm. They had ten children,—seven sons and three daughters. Elias Matter was the sixth child and fourth son. He was sent to a German school when only five years of age, and afterwards attended the district school. When he was eight years old, his father died; and the farm was bought by his grandfather, George Matter. For three years, his mother remained on the place with the five youngest children, and then married Mr. Blystone, a neighboring farmer. At eleven years of age, Elias Matter engaged to work a year on a farm for his board and clothes and three months' schooling in winter. In the spring of 1849, he went to learn the trade of a cabinet-maker; but, three months after, his employer closed the business, and Mr. Matter resumed farm work. In 1850 he engaged to work for Philip Bowman, at Uniontown, Pennsylvania, where he served an apprenticeship of three years, learning chair and cabinet making. He then became clerk in a country store, where he remained two years. In February, 1855, he went to Rochester, New York; and, being well satisfied, concluded to remain. He worked for six months in a chair factory, where he became acquainted with Samuel Green, who afterwards opened a boot and shoe store in Grand Rapids, Michigan; and engaged Mr. Matter as clerk. He remained in Mr. Green's employ until the spring of 1857; he then attended school for three months, and taught during the winter. In the summer of 1858, he was employed as clerk and house painter; and, in the winter, again taught school. In the spring of 1859, he entered the employ of C. C. Comstock, a furniture manufacturer of Grand Rapids, where he worked at piece-work for about six months, and then became foreman.

In the fall of 1862, he left the employ of Mr. Comstock, and entered into a partnership with Julius Berkey for the purpose of manufacturing furniture. They carried on an exclusively wholesale business. In October, 1863, they sold an interest to William A. Berkey, and the firm was changed to Berkey Brothers & Co. For a time, they manufactured sashes, doors, and blinds; but, gradually, went back to furniture only. In February, 1870, Mr. Matter sold his share of the business to his partners; and, in April of the same year, purchased the interest of T. A. Comstock in the firm of Nelson, Comstock & Co., which became Nelson, Matter & Co. This is now the largest manufacturing company in Grand Rapids. Mr. Matter is a Royal Arch Mason, a member of the Independent Order of Odd-Fellows, and of the Encampment. His family attend the Congregational Church, of which his wife is a member. He was married, August 17, 1858, to Miss Anna Toot, eldest daughter of Adam Toot, a farmer, of Irving, Barry County, Michigan. They have had nine children, five of whom—three sons and two daughters—are living.

**M**cCONNELL, WILLIAM H., was born November 12, 1818, in the vicinity of Westminster Abbey, London, England. A few months after, his parents removed to Newbury, Berkshire, where he attended school until he was eleven years of age. His services were then required in the business of his father, with whom he remained two years. At that period an important letter was received from America, from an uncle who had emigrated to this country, asking that the boy be sent to him in care of another uncle about to leave England for America. It was decided that he should go to his mother's brother, located on a farm in Riga, Monroe County, New York. Sailing from Bristol on the 4th day of April, 1832, they arrived in New York City after a voyage of five weeks. They soon accomplished the journey to Riga, and were welcomed by friends eagerly awaiting their arrival. William McConnell lived with his uncle, Frederick Davis, on his farm, until the following spring, when he obtained a situation in a store near by, the owners of which were young men dealing in general merchandise suited for country trade. He continued with them for nearly a year, when they closed out their business, and he was thrown on his own resources. In the meantime, his parents having come to America and settled in Rochester, New York, he embraced the opportunity to be at home once more. But his self-reliant spirit asserted itself in the parental home, and he soon obtained a position as clerk, in the well-known house of Griffith Brothers & Son, of that city, which he retained for three years. In 1838, having a desire to go West, he left

Rochester for Fort Wayne, Indiana, a trading-post with the then powerful tribes of Pottawatomie and Miami Indians. After a tedious journey on foot from Fort Defiance, taking two days to travel through a part of what is known as the Black Swamp, he arrived at Fort Wayne, and soon secured a position as clerk in the trading-house of Bowrie & Peltier. The season proved sickly; and, after three months, Mr. McConnell suffered a severe attack of bilious fever and chills. In November following, he left for Rochester, New York, arriving at home a mere shadow of his former self; but, thanks to a mother's care, aided by a kind Providence, he, in time, regained his health. In the spring of 1839, the entire family removed to Mount Morris, Livingston County, New York. Shortly after, Mr. McConnell became clerk in a store, where he remained until, at the age of twenty years, he went into business for himself in Geneseo, a village six miles from Mount Morris. At the close of the week's labor, it was his frequent practice to walk to Mount Morris for the purpose of spending the Sabbath at home; and, on Monday morning, to return early to his place of business. The enjoyment of these walks will never be forgotten, enlivened as they were by the beautiful scenery of the Genesee Valley. At the termination of the year, Mr. McConnell sold out his business, which had been quite successful, and returned to Mount Morris, where he formed a copartnership with his uncle, Frederick Davis, in 1841. After four years, he disposed of his interest to his partner, in September, 1845, to engage in the general hardware trade in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He continued this for ten years; and, by assiduous efforts, secured a liberal profit. During this period, he purchased, on favorable terms, a stock of dry goods, and opened a store independent of his hardware establishment. The unexpected increase of business led him to invite his brother John to come to Michigan, and assume the care of the dry-goods house. In 1850, for the purpose of concentrating both departments of trade, he built the second brick block in Grand Rapids, in which he carried on a large and lucrative trade in hardware, dry goods, carpets, etc., up to the year 1856; Mr. McConnell then received very flattering overtures from the senior member of the house of Bowen, McNamee & Co., to take an interest in an established house in New York City, of which Henry C. Bowen was special partner. He was thereby induced to close his business operations in Grand Rapids, and became the junior partner of the firm of Ely, Bowen & McConnell. His expectations, however, were not realized. The panic of 1857 developed unlooked-for circumstances, and the firm closed their business of importing and jobbing dry goods. Some time after, Mr. McConnell assumed the duties of correspondent in the house of A. T. Stewart & Co., and was in the employment of that firm until 1862. He then returned to Grand

Rapids; and, at the old stand, again began the hardware trade. In 1867 he added to it a department of dry goods, carpets, etc., and has carried on both branches uninterruptedly to the present year. In the seventeenth year of his age, he became a member of the First Presbyterian Church, in Rochester, New York, and was one of a number that left that church to found the Washington Street Presbyterian Church, in the same city. He is now a member of the First Congregational Church in Grand Rapids, with which he united in 1845. While residing in New York, he was a member of the Madison Square Presbyterian Church, in that city. He also became a member of the Adelphic Masonic Lodge, and Secretary for the Twenty-first Ward Independent Citizens' Association, created to prevent political corruption and to obtain honest legislation. He has been twice married; his first wife, Miss Eunice W. Hopkins, to whom he was married in 1841, was a niece and adopted daughter of Garrit Lansing, Jr., of Albany, New York. She died in Grand Rapids in 1846, leaving two children, a daughter and a son, the latter of whom died in 1847. His present wife was Miss Margaret R. Sommers, daughter of Charles G. Sommers, D. D., of New York City. They were married in 1849, and have had five daughters, but two of whom are living. Mr. McConnell is a man of somewhat marked individuality of character. He is assiduous in his business, and persistent in whatever he undertakes. He forms his judgment and opinions only after the most careful consideration; and, having once decided upon a course of action, pursues it with fortitude, devoting his best energies and constant efforts to the attainment of his object. Faithful in all things, he seldom fails to achieve success. These characteristics, combined with a high sense of honor, have contributed to secure for Mr. McConnell the confidence of those with whom he has dealt in New York and elsewhere, and have established for him a reputation and credit which, to a business man, are more valuable and enduring than the possession of wealth.

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**M**CCONNELL, JOHN, Grand Rapids, Michigan, was born in the old town of Newbury, Berkshire, England, September 22, 1821. His school days were spent in what was known, in his native town, as John Moss' Academy; in which, until the tenth year of his age, he was regarded as an apt scholar. Then his feeble health obliged him to give up all study. In 1833 his father, William McConnell, emigrated with his family to America, and settled in Rochester, New York. There the subject of our sketch was employed in mercantile houses in various capacities, from that of errand boy to clerk, until 1842, when, with his parents, he removed to Mount Morris, New York. In



1844 he decided to go into business for himself, and opened a country store in Danville, New York. His business connections were unfortunate; and, in 1847, he disposed of his stock, went to Michigan, and settled at Grand Rapids. He was engaged in various mercantile houses, and prospered, by attending to his work and keeping aloof from questionable operations with which he was often solicited to connect himself. Though not an office-seeker, Mr. McConnell's course in life won the esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens, and they elected him Alderman of his ward for several consecutive years; and, subsequently, elected him Supervisor. Both positions he filled to the great satisfaction of his constituents, and did more to reduce and equalize taxation than was believed possible. He is, at present, a member of the Board of Education, having ably filled that office for five years. In 1850 he purchased, in the First Ward of Grand Rapids, a tract of ten acres, then regarded as a part of the south woods, on which he built his residence. To-day, forming the corner of Wealthy avenue and South Division street, it presents all the advantages of a country residence in the city; while its elevated position renders it healthful, and indicates the good judgment and foresight of its owner. On the 5th of October, 1848, Mr. McConnell was married to Miss Mary Escott by the Rev. F. H. Cummings, then rector of St. Mark's Episcopal Church at Grand Rapids. They have three children,—two sons and one daughter. Both Mr. and Mrs. McConnell are prominent members of the Episcopal Church; and, with their children, are regular attendants at St. Mark's, of which Mr. McConnell has been Vestryman seven years. He has also been one of the principal founders of Grace Church. He is now a Trustee of St. Mark's Home and Hospital, at Grand Rapids, of which Mrs. McConnell is one of the managers. In 1848 he became a member of the Masonic Fraternity, and gradually advanced to the highest degree of the original American system. He became a Knight Templar in 1856, among the first in the State who attained that degree. Mr. McConnell has identified himself, to some extent, with the various public improvements which have benefited Grand Rapids, having been a stockholder and Director in the Holland Railroad Company until its consolidation with the Chicago and Michigan Lake Shore Railroad. He is one of the early settlers in the city, and is known as a man of good practical sense and sound judgment. Possessed of careful and conservative business qualifications, with abundant energy and an indomitable will, he is dismayed by no obstacles, and is equal to any emergency. He has had his good and his evil times; and has firmly met the latter, not to be conquered, but to conquer. In his social intercourse, he has won the respect and confidence of his friends, and of those who, during his business life, were his customers; while in the official positions he has occupied, his course has been

found worthy of approval. In 1871 he retired from active business, and now lives, peaceably and happily, in the enjoyment of independent circumstances and pleasant relations with friends and neighbors. He has firm faith in the Christian religion, to which he has always given his support. Mr. McConnell is regarded, where he is best known, as an unambitious, but thoroughly religious and honest, man; and, as such, well worthy of a place in this record of self-made men.

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**M**ORAN, JAMES LOUIS, Chief of Police of Grand Rapids, was born in the city of Detroit, January 22, 1832. He was the third child in a family of thirteen, whose parents were Louis and Maria (May) Moran. When he was five years of age, he went with his mother from Detroit to Grand Rapids. They traveled the entire distance on Indian ponies, guided by Indians, and following an Indian trail. They camped in the woods at night; and, after a tedious journey of eight days, reached their destination. After about two months, the family removed to Middleville, and settled among a tribe of Chippewa Indians; the village consisted of one hundred and forty lodges. Here they remained four years. In 1814 they returned to Grand Rapids, and rented the old Eagle Hotel. Here James remained until he reached the age of fifteen, when he engaged as deck-hand on one of the old steamers on the Grand River. He acted in this capacity for about six years, and then engaged as pilot on one of the boats of the Grand Rapids Transportation Company, receiving the highest salary ever paid to any pilot in that section of the State. After two years, during which time he served the company's interests faithfully, he bought a one-third interest in one of the steamers, known as the "Nebraska," and filled the positions of Captain and pilot for about three years. At that time, on account of the reductions in freight and the stringency of the money market, he lost all he had invested. In the fall of 1862, he was appointed ensign on board the gun-boat "La Fayette," which belonged to the Mississippi squadron, under Admiral Porter, the Executive Officer being William Wall. After about eleven months of service, he was called home by a dispatch, stating that his parents were both dangerously ill. Receiving the consent of Admiral Porter, he immediately started for Grand Rapids, and, on arriving, found both his father and mother stricken with paralysis, and so seriously affected as to require his entire attention. After the lapse of six years of suffering, death relieved them. By the death of his father, Mr. Moran fell heir to considerable property in the city of Detroit, which he exchanged for valuable property in Grand Rapids. In 1871 he organized the first police force in the city, of which he

was made Chief by the City Council. This position he still holds, to the satisfaction of all. His personal appearance is prepossessing. He is squarely built; six feet, one inch in height, and weighs about two hundred and twenty-seven pounds. He has dark eyes, and black hair dashed with gray. He is especially fitted for the position he occupies. He never takes a prominent part in politics, but performs faithfully his duties as a citizen. He is a man of strong sense and much decision of character—unyielding when convinced of the justice of his cause. Mr. Moran was married, June 4, 1853, to Miss Elizabeth Ann Robbins, of Boston, Massachusetts. They have one son living, Charles Louis, who is acting as clerk and detective for the police department.

**M**CKEE, JAMES HENRY, of Grand Rapids, was born in Arlington, Vermont, June 19, 1823. His family was originally from Scotland; but left that country in the time of the Covenanters, and stopped during one generation in the northern part of Ireland, whence they emigrated to America about the year 1740, and settled in Connecticut. His father, Aaron McKee, was a physician, who practiced medicine for over fifty years, and lived to be eighty-one years old. His mother, Martha (Henry) McKee, was a daughter of William Henry, a participant in the battle of Bennington. This battle was fought within sight of his home; the American army, under General Stark, encamped on his farm the previous night. Mr. McKee pursued his preparatory studies at Bennington and Manchester; and, also, at Pittsfield, Massachusetts. In 1844 he graduated from Yale College, after which he entered a mercantile house in New York City, where he remained two years. He then began the study of law in the office of John Slosson; continued his studies under the instruction of Augustus Schell, and was admitted to the bar in 1848. In 1849 he visited Michigan for the purpose of exploring certain lands which his father had located in the central part of that State; and, in 1852, he settled at Grand Rapids, engaging in the practice of his profession, and in the real estate business in connection with Hon. John Ball. Mr. McKee has been connected with the educational interests of the city for more than twenty years; and, during the greater portion of that time, has been a School Trustee and Secretary of the Board of Education. He was the author of the school law of Grand Rapids,—a special act, under which the public schools are now conducted. He is a member of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and has been vestryman and church warden for many years. He has been identified with the Republican party since its first organization. In 1856, Mr. McKee married Hannah Langdon,

a native of Vermont. They have had four children. The eldest son, William H., a graduate of Michigan University, and of Columbia Law School, in New York, is an active member of the legal profession in Chicago, Illinois.

**M**CBRIDE, GEORGE WASHINGTON, Lawyer, of Grand Haven, is the son of Neil S. and Mary (Colista) McBride, and was born September 26, 1845, in Keene Township, Coshocton County, Ohio. His early education was obtained in a district school in Deerfield Township, Lenawee County, Michigan. In 1862 he enlisted in the 15th Michigan Infantry, and was actively engaged in all the battles with the Army of the Tennessee, from that of Shiloh to the surrender of Johnson, in 1865. He attended Adrian College, Michigan, from 1865 to 1869; after which he became traveling agent for the Michigan State Insurance Company, of Adrian, and the Republic Insurance Company, of Chicago, Illinois. He studied law at Ann Arbor, Michigan; attended one course of lectures, and then entered the office of Eldrich & Walker. He was admitted to the bar in September, 1871, and removed to Holland, Michigan, where he practiced law until the fall of 1876. From 1873 to 1876, he was City Attorney, and, in 1874, was appointed Deputy Collector of Customs. From Holland, he removed to Grand Haven, where he was elected Prosecuting Attorney for the county. This office he still holds. He was married, November 10, 1873, at Angola, Indiana, to Martha E. Hendry, daughter of Hon. A. N. Hendry, a distinguished member of the Indiana Senate. As a lawyer, Mr. McBride is earnest and reliable, and speaks with ease and directness. As a man, he is upright, useful, and consistent. He has always voted the Republican ticket.

**M**ARVIN, LA RAY, M. D., Homeopathic Physician and Surgeon, of Muskegon, was born in Erie County, New York, November 21, 1848, and is the son of the late Harvey and Amelia (Tolman) Marvin. His father practiced medicine in the States of New York and Pennsylvania for a number of years. He then removed to the West, and settled in Whitehall, Michigan, where he died in September, 1871. La Ray Marvin obtained his early education in the common schools of Erie County, New York, and graduated from Westfield Academy at the age of eighteen. In the spring of 1867, he entered the office of Drs. Carr & Porter, of Galesburg, Illinois, where he pursued a rigorous course of medical reading for over a year. He then went to Chicago, and became a student



in the office of George W. Foote, a prominent homeopathic physician. In October, 1868, he entered the Hahnemann Medical College, from which he graduated in February, 1870. The same year, he settled in Muskegon, where he has continued to reside. He is a Knight Templar, and also a member of the order of Knights of Pythias. In politics, he is a Republican. He has secured a large and lucrative practice, which continues to increase. His fine social qualities make him universally popular; while he is esteemed for his professional skill and scholarly attainments. May 4, 1871, he was married to Miss Ellen M. Dyre, an estimable lady of Cleveland, Ohio.

**M**ILLER, JAMES, Lawyer, Grand Rapids, Michigan, was born on the 11th of February, 1823, at Winsted, Connecticut. His father, Joseph Miller, was, for twenty-seven years, a prominent lawyer of Litchfield County. He was a man of literary tastes and acquirements, a fine lawyer, and a cultivated gentleman of the old school. He came to Richland, Michigan, in 1834, where he bought a farm, and spent the remainder of his life. The mother of Mr. Miller was Elizabeth, daughter of Eli Richards. Mr. Miller acquired, in the schools of Connecticut and Michigan, a thorough rudimentary and academical education. His situation on the frontier deprived him of a more complete course; but he has ever considered himself fortunate to have had, at this period, a kind and competent instructor in his father, who, at great pains and sacrifice, led him through a course of classical and professional study, lasting for several years. About 1841 Mr. Miller went to the village of Kalamazoo, and entered the law office of Stuart & Miller. In 1842 he was Deputy County Clerk; retaining, however, for about two years, his connection with the law firm. He then came to Grand Rapids, and, having been admitted to the bar, formed a partnership with A. D. Rathbone, a leading lawyer of the place, and began the practice of his profession. It may be said of Mr. Miller, that he has never encouraged litigation, but rather has made it his aim to further the speedy adjustment of all difficulties in which his clients are involved. In this he has not been unsuccessful, having effected many friendly settlements and allayed much bitter feeling. This feature in his practice has not lessened his success as a lawyer. Mr. Miller was married, in 1846, to Mary Ada, daughter of Sidney Smith, of Grand Rapids. Mr. Smith was a lawyer, and was the founder of the village of Ada, in Kent County, Michigan. Mr. Miller has never been a politician, and has never held an office of profit or emolument, though occasionally accepting of public position at the solicitation of his fellow-citizens.

At present, he is a member of the Board of Public Works of his city. His habits and tastes are scholarly and domestic; he is unambitious, except to lead an honorable, useful, and worthy life, loving God, and his neighbor.

**M**OREHOUSE, ALBERT F., of Portland, Ionia County, was born in Livingston, Essex County, New Jersey, January 13, 1818, and is the son of David W. and Nancy (Farrand) Morehouse. He is of Puritan descent, and the sixth lineal descendant of the first Morchouse who landed in America. His father died, February 10, 1873, at Portland, Michigan, in his eighty-sixth year, and his mother the year following. Albert F. Morehouse was educated in the common schools of his native State. Evincing a marked taste for mechanics, he learned the carpenter and joiner's trade, which he carried on, successively, in Newark, New Jersey; Troy, New York; New Orleans, Louisiana; and Portland, Michigan. He removed to the last-named place May 24, 1843, where he still resides. He has not worked at his trade since 1863. In 1853 he was elected Supervisor of Portland Township; was re-elected in 1854, and again in 1862. He has been Justice of the Peace three terms, of four years each, and has three times held the office of Township Clerk. He has always identified himself with the educational interests of the village, having held the office of School Director twenty years. In 1863-64 he held the position of Sergeant-at-arms in the House of Representatives of the State. He is an active worker in local literary circles, being President of the Portland Library and Literary Association. Mr. Morehouse has always been a Republican. He was the first of his branch of the family to unite with the Baptist Church, of which he has been a member since 1835. He married, November 6, 1839, Sarah C. Freeman, a lineal descendant of Aneke Jans. They have had a family of five sons and four daughters. Of the former, the eldest served in the 10th Michigan Cavalry until the close of the war. The second son, Lewis Cass Morehouse, is a Baptist minister in Chicago. With the exception of one son, who died when he was eight years old, the family are all living. Mr. Morehouse is now engaged in business of a miscellaneous character, including the duties devolving upon him as Notary Public, Conveyancer of Deeds, Claim Agent, etc. Few men are better known in Portland than 'Squire Morehouse, and no resident of the town is more deservedly popular. At an early age he was called from the vocation which he had chosen to attend to the interests of the community in which he resides. Although not educated in the law, his ready apprehension of its rules and the principles of government insured his success. His religious views have formed his basis of action, and his integrity and fidelity

have long held the confidence of the people. His service as Justice of the Peace, Supervisor, etc., in his town and county, has been of marked efficiency. His executive ability in the settlement of estates is constantly called into requisition; and, last, but not least, his untiring efforts in an official capacity for the education of the young can be properly appreciated only in succeeding years.

**M**ORRISON, WALTER B., M. D., Muskegon, was born May 6, 1838, at Grand Rapids, Michigan. He is the son of Jefferson Morrison, one of the earliest settlers of Grand Rapids, who removed there in 1835, when the place was only an Indian trading post. Mr. Morrison lost his mother when he was ten years of age. His own health being delicate, he was not kept closely at school, although he received such advantages as the vicinity afforded, until he was twenty. At that time, his father resolved to give him a medical education. He pursued his studies from 1859 to 1861 with Dr. Bliss, now of Washington City, and at the Michigan University. At the commencement of the Rebellion, he enlisted in the 3d Michigan Regiment as hospital steward, and served with great credit. In August, 1862, he was commissioned Assistant-Surgeon of the same regiment. He remained in the field three years, when he was mustered out of service with his regiment. He then went on duty in the General Hospital at Baltimore. In addition to this work, he was detailed to the reception, distribution, and care of the sick and wounded, who were arriving from General Sheridan's army, during those memorable battles in the Shenandoah Valley. After the close of his labors as surgeon, Dr. Morrison continued his medical studies at New York and Brooklyn. He graduated from the Long Island College, Brooklyn, and then settled at Muskegon, Michigan. Here his untiring energy and ardent love for his profession have won for him the highest rank among his compeers. He is an active, zealous worker in the Democratic party. In October, 1868, Dr. Morrison married Miss Hattie E. Moore, of Alleghany County, New York. Her death occurred in 1871. In 1874 he married Mrs. Sara C. Barnes, of Boston, who is the great-granddaughter of Major Buttrick, of Revolutionary fame. He is Master of Muskegon Lodge, No. 140, Free and Accepted Masons, and a member of the Grand Lodge of the Knights of Pythias of the State. He has been very active in the temperance cause instituted by Dr. H. A. Reynolds, of Bangor, Maine, under the red ribbon badge, being President of the club. By his untiring efforts, a magnificent brick building for club-room and opera-house has been erected in Muskegon, costing not less than twenty thousand dollars.

**M**CREYNOLDS, COLONEL A. T., Lawyer, Grand Rapids, Michigan, was born in the town of Dungannon, County of Tyrone, Ireland, on the 25th of December, 1808. In August, 1830, he emigrated to the United States, and settled in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. There he became a member of the "Duquesne Grays," the first volunteer military company formed west of the Alleghanies after the close of the War of 1812. Of this company, Mr. McReynolds was elected Ensign, and with it volunteered to assist General Scott in suppressing nullification in South Carolina. In 1833 Mr. McReynolds removed to Detroit, Michigan, of which State he has since been a citizen. In 1834 he was appointed, with the rank of Major, on the staff of Major-General Williams, who commanded all the militia forces in the then Territory of Michigan. In the winter of 1834-35, Major McReynolds was one of four who organized, under the name of the "Brady Guards," the first volunteer company of militia that, after the War of 1812, was formed in Michigan. Having passed a sufficient time in the study of law, in 1840 he was examined and licensed to practice in the courts of Wayne County, and soon attained considerable distinction in his profession. His tastes, however, being decidedly military, he took a leading part in the organization of the "Montgomery Guards," of Detroit, and was elected their first Captain. At this time, he was acting as Colonel of the first regiment of Michigan Militia, of which regiment he was Lieutenant-Colonel or Colonel for eleven years. In 1847 he was commissioned, by President Polk, a Captain of dragoons in the United States Army; and, resigning his seat in the Senate of Michigan, served under General Scott during the war of 1847-48 with Mexico. His troop, with that of Captain, subsequently General, Philip Kearney, acted as General Scott's body-guard during the Mexican War; and, in 1848, raised the American flag in the City of Mexico. Colonel McReynold's bravery in that campaign has been vividly described by the press of the country, he having received complimentary recognition from the President and Senate of the United States for the celebrated charge of Kearney and McReynold's dragoons on the gates of Mexico, in which he bore a conspicuous part, and in which he and General Kearney were both disabled for life. At the close of the war, Colonel McReynolds returned to Detroit, and resumed the practice of his legal profession. Thirteen years afterwards, on the call of President Lincoln, he tendered his services to the United States Government; was commissioned a Colonel by the President, and organized and led to the field the "Lincoln Cavalry," the first regiment of that arm of the service enlisted for the Union. During 1861, he commanded this regiment; and, subsequently, a brigade for two years, and a division for



six months; when, his term of service having expired, he was honorably discharged. Removing to Grand Rapids, he again entered upon the practice of law. No less in politics than in war, has Colonel McReynolds taken a prominent part. He was, in 1838-39, an Alderman of the city of Detroit; and represented his district in the State Legislature during the session of 1839-40. He was a delegate from Michigan to the Harrisburg Convention of December, 1839, that nominated General Harrison as the Whig candidate for the Presidency. Under President Tyler, he was Indian Agent for three years; and, in 1846, being elected State Senator for the city of Detroit, served until 1847, when he resigned to participate in the Mexican War. In 1851 he was elected Prosecuting Attorney of Wayne County; and, in 1852, a member of the Board of Education of Detroit, and the first President of that Board under its charter. By President Johnson, he was appointed United States District-Attorney, at Grand Rapids, for the United States Western District of Michigan; and, as the candidate of the Democratic Liberal party of the Fifth Congressional District, ran for Congress in 1872. In 1874 he removed to Muskegon, where he engaged in the practice of his profession. In the fall of that year, he was elected Prosecuting Attorney for Muskegon County. He served the term with satisfaction to his constituents and the citizens at large of that county, but declined to be a candidate for re-election. In January, 1877, Colonel McReynolds returned to Grand Rapids, and resumed the practice of law. He is now President of the State Association of Mexican Veterans. With a reputation not confined to the State, but known throughout the Union, his name will long be honored by the citizens of his adopted country, not only for his bravery in war, but for the satisfactory performance of every duty to which he has been assigned in civil life.

**M**ORGAN, LESTER C., Lumberman, Muskegon, Michigan, was born in Le Roy, Genesee County, New York, June 13, 1822. His parents, William and Sophia (Cole) Morgan, were farmers; his father being of Welsh and his mother of Scotch descent. Their family consisted of seven children,—four sons and three daughters. Mr. Morgan, the second son, received a district school education, and spent one winter in a select school. When twenty years of age he began teaching, and accumulated, during the winter, one hundred and forty-four dollars, all but four of which he invested in an old mill-site. There, in partnership with his father, he built and conducted a linseed-oil mill. Having a desire to go West, he sold his interests in New York State, and removed to Chicago, where he remained eleven years. During the first three years, he was engaged in the wood and coal business; the next

three, in the grain trade; and, subsequently was employed as post-sutler, in Camp Fry, Chicago. After the close of the war, he spent two years in selecting a place in which to settle. In 1867 he removed to Muskegon, where he has since been engaged in buying and selling pine lands, and in locating lands for others. Mr. Morgan owned the site of the village which now bears his name, but sold one-half of it to Mr. S. N. Wilcox, of Chicago. Besides laying it out, he erected the first and most substantial buildings and saw-mills. He is a stockholder in the Wilcox Lumber Company of the place. He was a Whig, but has been a Republican since the organization of that party in 1855. Mr. Morgan is a temperance advocate, and exerts a strong influence over younger men. He was brought up an Old-school Presbyterian, but is not a member of any church, although a believer and supporter of religion. He was married, in Pembroke, Genesee County, New York, September 4, 1845, to Miss Mary J. Long, granddaughter of David Long, one of the pioneer physicians in that section of the country, and widely known throughout the State. Her father was a prominent politician, and extensive farmer. They have four children,—two sons and two daughters. The eldest, James L. Morgan, is a resident of Morgan, where he has been engaged in the lumber business since 1875.

**M**ORSE, HON. ALLEN B., of Ionia, Michigan, the eldest of the nine children of Hon. John L. and Susan (Cowles) Morse, was born January 7, 1839, in Otisco, Ionia County, Michigan. His father, now of Wright County, Iowa, began to earn his own living at seventeen; he married at nineteen, and was one of the first settlers in Ionia County. While in Michigan he held various township offices; was Judge of the Probate Court for twelve years, and a member of the State Legislature. In Iowa, he has been County Judge and County Auditor, and is now a member of the Iowa Assembly. The education of Allen B. Morse was carried on mostly at home; he was an apt scholar, but loved sport too well to be a close student; he excelled in mathematics, English literature, and botany,—the last is still his favorite study. He took a two years' course at the Agricultural College, taught a few months, and, in the spring of 1860, commenced the study of law. In 1861 he enlisted as a private in the 16th Regiment of Michigan Infantry. In December, 1863, he was transferred to the 21st Regiment, and, soon after the battle of Chickamauga, assigned to duty as Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, on the staff of Colonel F. T. Sherman, who commanded the first brigade of Sheridan's division. While in this position, he lost his arm at the storming of Mission Ridge. He was in the battles of Hanover Court House, Gaines' Mill, Pope's battle of Manassas,

Antietam, Chickamauga, and in numerous skirmishes. On severing his connection with his staff, he received the following flattering testimonial:

"HEAD-QUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE, SECOND DIVISION,  
"FOURTH ARMY CORPS,  
"CAMP LAIBOLD, EAST TENN., Feb. 9, 1864. }

"To whom it may concern: The undersigned takes great pleasure in bearing testimony to the ability and bravery of Lieutenant A. B. Morse, Adjutant of the 21st Michigan Infantry Volunteers. Lieutenant Morse was, by my order, detailed as Acting Assistant Adjutant-General of my brigade, and was selected by me for this responsible position, because of his peculiar fitness and ability to discharge the duties which would devolve upon him. Ever at the post of duty, either in the office or the field, he won the esteem and confidence of his superior officers, and the love and respect of his juniors. I respectfully recommend him to the consideration of his country and Government, for any position in the invalid corps which he may desire. F. T. SHERMAN,

"Col. 88th Illinois Infantry Vols., County Brigade."  
"First Lieut. A. B. Morse, Ionia, Michigan."

"HEAD-QUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,  
"FOURTH ARMY CORPS,  
"LOUDON, TENN., February 11, 1864. }

"I take great pleasure in approving the wishes and recommendations of Colonel Sherman. Lieutenant Morse, while in my division, proved himself to be an able, efficient, and gallant officer; and was wounded while leading his men in the storming of Mission Ridge.

"P. H. SHERIDAN, Major-General."

Lieutenant Morse concluded his law studies on his return home, and has practiced since February, 1865, at Ionia. In 1866 he was elected Prosecuting Attorney for Ionia County. In 1874 he was the Democratic candidate for Senator from his district, and was elected by a majority of two thousand two hundred and eleven, in a strong Republican district. While in the Senate he was Chairman of the Military Committee, and a member of the Committee on State Affairs and Constitutional Amendments. Mr. Morse is an enthusiastic lover of field sports; all his spare hours, at the proper season, are spent with rod and gun, or in the study of the flora of forest and field. He is of medium size, and of active temperament. As a boy, he thought deeply, and was well informed on political subjects. Taking the side of humanity and liberty, he early became a Union soldier, and showed a courage that proved him worthy to be one of the life-guard of a great nation. On his return from the war,—made victorious by the valor of soldiers like himself, and bearing its scars,—a grateful people were swift to honor him with public positions. His opinions are tenaciously held and fearlessly declared. He is an expert in his profession; seizing the material points of a case, he examines and masters them, drawing conclusions that are rarely erroneous. In addressing a court, jury, or a public meeting, he is fluent, clear, and forcible. He has already an extensive practice. Mr. Morse is strong in his friendships, and frank in his animosities; so decided

are his convictions and characteristics that his presence is acknowledged wherever he moves. He married, November 25, 1874, Frances Marian Van Allen, daughter of George W. Van Allen. They have two children,—a son and a daughter.

MORRIS, ROBERT W., was born in New York on the 13th of October, 1816, and died at Grand Rapids on the 5th of May, 1866. When eighteen years old, having saved some money by the exercise of great economy, he went to Michigan, and bought eighty acres of land in Oakland County. In 1837 he removed to Grand Rapids Township, and, in partnership with L. Covell and W. I. Blakely, engaged in business in a saw-mill, six miles from what was then the village of Grand Rapids. In 1838 he dissolved this connection, and, removing to Muskegon, entered into partnership with Martin Ryerson, in manufacturing lumber, which the firm sold in Chicago, where they had two large lumber-yards. They owned, in course of time, two large saw-mills at Muskegon; vessels to carry lumber to Chicago, and the first steamer that navigated Lake Michigan between those localities. They began, in 1838, with a capital of but six thousand dollars; and, twenty-seven years later, when Mr. Morris retired, he received two hundred and fifty thousand dollars as his share. In the spring of 1865, Mr. Morris removed to Grand Rapids, where he purchased twenty acres of land, with improvements that made it the finest place of residence in the city. This property is, at present, worth five times as much as it cost. During his residence at Muskegon, Mr. Morris was Mayor of that city six years, and also held minor offices. He attended the Congregational Church, but was a generous contributor to all religious denominations. He married, at Chicago, on the 4th of August, 1852, Miss Sarah A. Joslyn. This union was blessed with three children,—two daughters and a son, who are still living,—the consolation of their widowed mother. Mrs. Morris manages the estate with a high degree of business ability. She has never ceased to mourn the loss of her noble husband. In an estimate of the character of Mr. Morris, peculiar traits are noticeable, and worth placing on record. He abhorred profane language to such a degree that those in his employment seldom indulged in it. He possessed magnetic power over those with whom he had acquaintance or dealings,—winning not only their respect, but their affection. His life influenced happily all who came in contact with him; and, with that not unusual combination in the nature of some men, he was brave as he was good; tender and affectionate as he was strong and manly. Upon reaching Michigan, in the early days of his manhood, his whole property consisted of eighty acres of wild land in



the Territory; at his death, which occurred when he was but fifty years old, he was the owner of real and personal property valued at more than a quarter of a million of dollars. Mr. Morris may, with propriety, take rank among the self-made men of Michigan.

**M**URPHY, REV. TIMOTHY J., of Berlin, Kent County, Michigan, was born in Bendon, County of Cork, Ireland, April 5, 1848. His parents were Jerry and Margaret (Weasy) Murphy. His early education was obtained in the county school, where he studied the classics under the direction of Thomas Lordan, nephew of the first Bishop of Charlestown. He afterwards passed a rigid examination, and was admitted to All-Hallows College, Dublin. Here he finished his philosophical and theological studies in a satisfactory manner. Desiring more freedom than the laws of England permitted, he left his native country for America. May 30, 1871, he was ordained priest by Bishop Borgess, in the city of Detroit. His first parish was in Bay City, Michigan. He has been actively engaged in Grand Haven in building churches, and helping the needy; endeavoring with sincere earnestness to assist his fellow-men. He has ever sympathized with the weak and oppressed, and has been greatly concerned for the unsatisfactory state of his own country. He is a man of genial nature; is ready and entertaining in conversation, and exhibits unusual depth of thought. He is a natural orator, speaking eloquently and logically. He is universally esteemed for the fidelity and sincerity with which he fulfills his priestly duties. His sterling worth and tireless energy have won the respect of the community. Even those who are antagonistic to his church recognize in him a man worthy of admiration. July 4, 1876, Father Murphy was called upon by a committee of prominent citizens to read the Declaration of Independence at the public festivities. He acceded to their request; and, after delivering the entire oration from memory, concluded with these words: "Permit me, as a stranger, to express the wish that I may live long enough to read the Declaration of Independence of my own native land."

**N**ELSON, HON. C. D., of Muskegon, Senator from the Twenty-sixth District of Michigan, was born in Newbury, Orange County, Vermont, May 12, 1824. He is the son of Stephen P. and Rachel (Gates) Nelson. His father was a clothier and farmer. C. D. Nelson received his early school education in his native town. In 1846 he went to Boston, Massachusetts, where, for a time, he was engaged in contracting and building. He afterwards entered a commercial col-

lege in Boston, where he received a thorough business training. After graduating from that institution, in 1853, he became manager of a large contracting firm, and remained about three years. In 1857 he moved to Michigan, and settled in Muskegon; where, for nine years, he was manager of the lumber business of Marsh & Foss. In 1868 he formed a partnership with William B. Phillips and Samuel A. Brown, of Chicago, for the purpose of manufacturing lumber in Muskegon, the firm name being Brown, Nelson & Co. In 1873 Mr. D. K. Loveland, of Chicago, purchased Mr. Brown's interest, and the firm name became C. D. Nelson & Co. They manufactured, on an average, about fifteen million feet of lumber annually. Mr. Nelson has held various offices of trust and responsibility. He was elected City Treasurer in 1865-6, and has been Alderman of the city for several years, and also President of the Board of Education in Muskegon since 1871. He has been a Republican since the organization of that party. In 1875 he was elected to the Michigan Senate, and, in 1877, was re-elected. In the latter year he was made President *pro tempore*. His legislative career has been marked by that good sense and independent judgment which distinguish the statesman who serves his constituency from the politician who connives for his party. He is liberal in his religious views; and, although not a member of any church organization, is respectfully tolerant of all. He attends the Baptist Church, with his family. He was married, May 20, 1853, to Miss Carrie Mason, an estimable young lady of Newbury, Vermont. They have a son and daughters.

**N**ELSON, EZRA T., Manufacturer, Grand Rapids, is a native of Massachusetts, and was born in Milford, Worcester County, on the 9th of May, 1824. His father, Ezra Nelson, of Milford, was Captain of militia in the War of 1812. His mother was Mary Parkhurst, also of Milford. After a preparatory education, he attended the academies of Farmingham and Cambridgeport, in his native State. In 1842 he became clerk in the wholesale dry-goods house of S. F. Morse & Co., at Boston. Here he remained about two years, when he came West, spending the winter in Chicago, a few months at Columbus, Ohio, and several months in St. Louis. He then came to Grand Rapids, and accepted a position as clerk in the store of Henry R. Williams. He remained in this capacity two years, when, in company with J. M. Smith, D. Hatch, and E. B. Bostwick, he started out in search of adventure through the copper regions of Lake Superior. After an absence of four months, the party returned without having made any important investment or discovery. During the year 1847, with his brother as partner, he

opened a general assortment store, which they carried on for three years with very little success. In 1850 he became clerk in the clothing store of Lewis, Porter & Co., remaining two years; at the end of this time, he engaged in the clothing business in his own name. In 1863, in connection with J. M. Nelson and C. C. Comstock, he began the wholesale and retail furniture trade, in which he has since continued. The annual sales of the firm have increased in amount from twenty thousand to three hundred thousand dollars; they have recently shipped several thousand dollars' worth of goods to England, and have some prospect of building up a good foreign trade. Their exhibit at the Centennial Exposition attracted much attention on account of its fine finish, unique style, and massive proportions. Their furniture factory is the largest in the North-west. Mr. Nelson has always been a member of the Democratic party. He acted as Supervisor for two terms, and has declined several other public offices. On the 9th of October, 1848, he married Augusta M., daughter of Charles Valentine, of Cambridgeport, Massachusetts; they have three daughters. He has always given liberally to every enterprise that promised advantage to the city of Grand Rapids, and is highly respected by his fellow-citizens.

**N**EWMAN, JAMES, of Portland, was born in Gorham, New York, January 7, 1812, and died in Portland, Michigan, April 2, 1877. His parents were Elisha and Mary Newman. The former died in 1849; the latter when James was but one year old. On his mother's death, he was taken to live with his grand-parents, at Hopewell, New York. Upon reaching manhood, he became impressed with the bright prospects of the West, which led so many to desert their homes in the East, and went to Michigan in June, 1833. He reached the mouth of the Looking-glass River on the 16th of that month, where he located a large tract of land. May 24, 1836, he settled, with his family, in Portland. The name Newman has been more intimately connected with the origin and progress of the city of Portland than perhaps any other. Mr. Newman had his full share of the toils and privations of those early days, when no roads existed in that part of Michigan, and the pioneers had literally to cut their way for many miles through the wilderness. The Indians still held the country, but were peaceably disposed and traded with new-comers. On reaching Portland, Mr. Newman's first work, after obtaining shelter for his family, was the erection, in connection with his brother, of a saw-mill on Looking-glass River. He also started a small run of stone for grinding. This was the first saw and grist mill on the river, and the only one in

Portland. Mr. Newman located and owned the greater part of the land on the east side of Grand River, now occupied by the village of Portland, where "Newman's Addition" is still a prominent landmark. From this small beginning, his business constantly increased, developing with the growth of the village. He was also, at various times, both alone and in connection with others, engaged in other kinds of business; principally in carrying on flour and woolen mills, buying and selling property, and farming. He held, at different times, the positions of Treasurer and Commissioner of Highways, and was frequently solicited to become a candidate for other public offices; but, having no ambition in that direction, he invariably declined. In the growth and improvement of the village, he always had a strong interest; and, to the railroad enterprises in that connection, he was a firm friend, freely using his money and influence. He was deeply interested in educational matters, and, for a number of years, served as a school officer. His benevolence was well known in the community; no deserving applicant for flour at his mill being turned away because he was not able to pay. Few men were more respected; and, at his death, the press of Portland gave ample expression to the public sorrow. Mr. Newman was connected with the Universalist Church. In politics, he was a Republican, and always voted consistently with the principles of that party. May 1, 1834, he married, at Hopewell, New York, Rebecca Hixon, a native of Bridgewater. She died March 25, 1862, leaving a family of five children,—three sons and two daughters. In 1865 Mr. Newman married Caroline, widow of Rev. Miles Reid, who survives him. They had one son. Mr. Newman's flour-mill is now carried on by his eldest son, James, in partnership with his brother-in-law, N. B. Rice, under the firm name of Newman & Rice; the latter owning a one-third interest. It is one of the largest establishments of the kind in the country.

**N**ELSON, JAMES M., Grand Rapids, was born in Milford, Worcester County, Massachusetts, on the 27th of November, 1810. His father, Ezra Nelson, was Captain of the old artillery company of Milford, and went to Boston with his company during the War of 1812. Mr. Nelson attended the district schools, and afterwards the academy of Milford. Upon leaving school, he assumed the entire charge of his father's farm until the year 1836, when he was induced to go West. Before starting, he purchased a stock of goods, intending to ship them to Green Bay, Wisconsin; but, after reaching Detroit, Michigan, he concluded to go on to Grand Rapids. Arriving at this place, he entered into a partnership with his brother, George C.



Nelson,—who had bought a store there,—and remained for about four years. During the second year of their partnership, they built, on Mill Creek, a new saw-mill, the only one in that part of the country. From that time, Mr. Nelson carried on the lumber business, for a number of years, with considerable success. During the winter of 1838, provisions were so scarce that Mr. Nelson made a journey into Indiana in search of hogs; at that time, there were no roads through the woods, and wild beasts abounded. He remained over night at a house about ten miles south of Goshen, Indiana; and while there, a hunter came to the same place, reporting that four miles distant an Indian had been devoured by the wolves. The following day, Mr. Nelson passed the spot, and saw fragments of the Indian's clothing. At Lafayette, Indiana, he purchased two hundred and eighty hogs, which were gladly received by the almost famished people of Grand Rapids. The whole drove was immediately killed. In the winter of 1837, Mr. Nelson, in company with five others, started to find the Muskegon River. Owing to the depth of the snow, and their inaccurate knowledge of the way, the journey, though only forty miles, occupied about three days and a half. They found an Ottawa Indian encampment on the bank of the river, and remained with the Indians for two days, receiving very kind treatment. When returning to Grand Rapids, they lost their way, and, for a day, traveled in the wrong direction. When they reached Grand Rapids, they had been without food for thirty-six hours. In 1838 Mr. Nelson launched the first raft that was ever sent down the Grand River. In 1840 he became Postmaster, holding the office four years. At this time, the partnership with his brother was dissolved. In 1839 he sold out his interest in the lumber business, and engaged in the manufacture of flour with M. L. Sweet and J. E. Bridge; they had two mills capable of turning out three hundred barrels of flour per day, besides doing custom-work. In 1863 Mr. Nelson sold his interest in the mills, and, with his brother, Ezra T. Nelson, bought of C. C. Comstock a half interest in a large furniture factory. At that time, the sales averaged about fifteen thousand dollars per year; for several years past, they have amounted to almost three hundred thousand dollars per year. He still carries on this business, under the firm name of Nelson, Matter & Co. Mr. Nelson has been a member of the Episcopal Church for thirty-five years, and has held a number of offices in the church. His first vote was in favor of the Whig ticket; since that time, he has been a Republican. In 1839 he married Miss Abbie G. Bridge, of Boston, Massachusetts, by whom he has had four daughters, all of whom are living. In August, 1847, his wife's death occurred. She was a woman of benevolence and good judgment, and an active worker in the interests of the Episcopal Church. In 1850 Mr.

Nelson married Mrs. Anna M. Sargent, who proved an excellent mother to his children. She died in March, 1860. Mr. Nelson is a representative and self-made man; and, by his strict business integrity and industry, commands the esteem of the entire community wherein he has spent the greater part of his life.

**N**EWCOMB, JOHN H., Insurance Agent and Real Estate Dealer, of Spring Lake, was born May 29, 1811, in Westford, Otsego County, New York, and is the son of James S. and Jane C. (Vanvleck) Newcomb. He attended the common schools of Onondaga County, but his early advantages were limited; much of his time was spent in farm labor, and his achievements in learning are mainly due to his own exertions in after life. He removed to Rochester, New York, in the fall of 1831, and engaged in the manufacture and sale of lumber. Being a good mechanic, and thoroughly acquainted with his business, he was able to oversee it in all its departments. In the fall of 1834, he removed to Grand Island, Erie County, New York, and engaged in the manufacture of ship planks for the Eastern market. Here he became noted as a machinist and mill-wright. In 1837 he moved to Muskegon, Michigan, to assist in erecting a mill; this, when completed, was placed under his supervision, until 1840. In May of that year, he injured his arm severely, and was obliged to suspend his business operations. During the year, he made an extensive tour through the States of Wisconsin and Illinois, and spent the summer in Chicago. June 1, 1841, he commenced work at Mill Point, now Spring Lake, where he built the first house, and erected a mill for Barber & Mason. In 1842 he was engaged in the manufacture of lumber in this mill. In the fall of the year he removed to Chicago, where he was agent for Barber & Mason, disposing of their lumber, until 1848, when they dissolved partnership. March 16, 1842, Mr. Newcomb was married to Frances Sinclair, daughter of James and Lydia A. Sinclair, of Chicago, formerly of New York City. March 31 he returned to Spring Lake, and improved and enlarged his mill. He continued the manufacture of lumber until January, 1853, when the mill was destroyed by fire. He rebuilt it in the same year, and, for five years, carried on a successful business. In January, 1859, he entered upon a mercantile pursuit, in which he was engaged until 1868. Since that time, he has been interested in real estate and insurance, and has been eminently successful. Mr. Newcomb has held several minor offices. He was Collector of Internal Revenue from the time the tax was first levied until the death of President Lincoln. He has an enviable reputation for business ability, honesty, and integrity, and has always been alive to public enterprise, and to acts of charity and benevolence.

**N**ORRIS, LYMAN D., Grand Rapids, is the only son of the late Mark Norris, who was a pioneer of Michigan; coming to Ypsilanti from New York in 1828, and remaining there until his death, which occurred in 1862. Mr. Norris, the subject of this sketch, was born at Covington, Genesee County, New York, on the 4th of May, 1825. After a preparatory education, he attended the Michigan College, at Marshall; and, in the fall of 1841, entered the Michigan University, being the first student of the first class that entered that now large and flourishing institution. Remaining there two years and nine months, he entered Yale College, whence he graduated in 1845. In the winter of 1845-6, he began to read law with A. D. Frazer, of Detroit,—a lawyer of great learning and distinction; having the best law library in the State. After fifteen months' study, Mr. Norris was admitted to the bar in the spring of 1847, being then twenty-two years of age. He was publicly examined, in open court, both by a committee and the Judges of the Supreme Court. He acquitted himself in such a manner as to reflect much honor, not only upon himself, but on those under whom he studied. In the spring of 1848, he commenced the practice of his profession in St. Louis, Missouri. The latter part of 1850 and nearly all of the year 1851, he spent in Europe, engaged in professional business. Having successfully disposed of that, he went to Heidelberg and entered upon the study of civil law,—a knowledge of which was of great service to St. Louis lawyers, in the investigation of French and Spanish land claims and titles, based upon the laws and titles existing previous to the purchase of Louisiana by President Jefferson in 1803. In 1852, when he had been but five years at the bar, Mr. Norris was retained in the celebrated Dred Scott case, and succeeded in inducing the Supreme Court of Missouri to reverse the decisions and principles of fourteen previously decided cases. Afterwards this case came to the United States Supreme Court, and to national celebrity. During his stay in St. Louis, Mr. Norris was political editor and part proprietor of the *St. Louis Daily Times*, for about a year. In 1854, being an only son, he was recalled to Ypsilanti by the failing health of his father, who, with an encumbered estate, required his assistance. This was freely given, although it demanded the abandonment of the successful career he had entered upon in St. Louis. He remained at Ypsilanti in the practice of law until the spring of 1871, when he removed to Grand Rapids, where he formed a law partnership with James Blair, the firm name becoming Norris & Blair. With some changes, this firm continued until November 1, 1875, when it was dissolved, and Mr. Norris formed a partnership with E. F. Uhl, under the name of Norris & Uhl. He was a member of the State Constitutional Convention in 1867, representing Washtenaw. He was

a useful conservative member, and co-operated with such men as Judge Withey, Mr. Lothrop, and Governor McClelland, in endeavoring to perfect a good constitution. If their advice had been heeded, in the separate submissions of the various political questions involved in that constitution, it is now seen that the State would have been greatly benefited; but partisan politics ran high near the closing scenes of the Rebellion, and the labors of the Convention came to naught. In 1869, the county being Republican, he was, against his wishes, nominated as the most available candidate for Senator. Unwilling to be set up only to be defeated, he introduced, for the first time in the history of the State, the always-to-be-desired practice of joint discussions; challenging his opponent, Hon. J. Webster Childs,—a good speaker and a favorite among his brother farmers. They held some dozen meetings in the county, the largest and most enthusiastic ever gathered in the State; conducted in the best spirit,—the candidates traveling together and each being the other's guest when they spoke in the towns of their residence. Mr. Norris was elected by a little less than two hundred majority; but they retained the respect of each other, and also of the people. In the Senate,—there being only five Democrats,—Mr. Norris, always averse to useless partisanship and contest over small matters of detail, proposed to his colleagues to make no party nominations for the minor offices of the Senate, and to give their votes for the candidates of the majority, which was done. In return for this courtesy, Lieutenant-Governor Bates gave every Democrat the chairmanship of a committee. It was a quiet, harmonious session. Mr. Norris was Chairman of the Geological Survey; and, also, on the Judiciary Committee and the Committee on Education. The people of the Upper Peninsula were anxious for a survey, and he prepared a full report upon the subject, in which Mr. McKernon, Chairman of the Committee on Geological Survey in the House, joined. Several thousand copies were ordered to be printed in pamphlet form. The joint committees reported a bill, which passed, and the geological survey was inaugurated with an appropriation of eight thousand dollars,—one-half for the Upper Peninsula. The people are greatly indebted to Mr. Norris for thus aiding in the development of the vast resources of that section. The two volumes of *Reports* published are wholly devoted to the iron and copper interests of that region. It was during this session of the Legislature that the law authorizing towns to vote aid to railroads, and the saddling of a bonded debt upon the municipalities of the State, to the amount of over six million dollars, was passed,—afterwards declared by the Supreme Court, in the Salem bond case, unconstitutional. Mr. Norris, like most of the prominent attorneys of the State, was in the habit of acting professionally for railroads, and was considered friendly to their interests; yet he opposed this law upon principle, speaking and voting





Eng'd by E.C. Williams. A.B. New York

*Leaman D. Norris*





steadily against it. It is true that success is not always the test of merit; yet "nothing succeeds like success," and he has acquired the reputation of succeeding in contested cases. An examination of his record in the Supreme Court of the State reveals the fact that, in fifty-two cases in which Mr. Norris appeared,—from nine counties in the State,—of twenty-one which were carried into that court, he had lost but five; of thirty-one undertaken, he won nineteen. On the 22d of November, 1855, he was married to Miss Lucy Whittelsey, daughter of the late Chauncey Whittelsey, of Middletown, Connecticut. They have two children,—a son and a daughter. During his residence in Grand Rapids, his reputation as an able lawyer has steadily increased. He is universally regarded as a man of scholarly attainments, sound legal mind, and possessed of a thorough knowledge of the principles of jurisprudence. In the spring of 1875, Mr. Norris was complimented by the State Democratic Convention's nomination as its candidate for Justice of the Supreme Court, in place of Justice Christiancy, who had been elected to the United States Senate. Mr. Norris accepted, because it was only a compliment, and he would not have to leave a lucrative practice,—the State then being Republican by some twenty-five thousand majority. It is from biographical notices of Mr. Norris, published during that canvass, that the foregoing is compiled.

his position in the army, on account of ill health, and returned to Grand Rapids. In 1865 he removed to Muskegon, where he resumed the practice of law. In 1867 he formed a partnership with Francis Smith; and, in 1869, Mr. Erwin was added to the firm, the firm name becoming Smith, Nims & Erwin. In 1869 Mr. Nims assisted in the organization of the Michigan Lake Shore Railroad Company. He was attorney for this road several years, and is now attorney for the Chicago and Michigan Lake Shore Railroad. As a lawyer, he is able and discreet; as an attorney for railroads and other corporations, he has acquired some prominence. His political views are in accordance with those of the Democratic party. From 1870 until 1874, Mr. Nims was a member of the Michigan State Central Democratic Committee; and, in 1876, he was a delegate to the National Democratic Convention which assembled in St. Louis. He is a member of the Masonic Fraternity, and of the Knights of Pythias. In 1876 he was elected a member of the School Board of Muskegon; and, since that time, has manifested deep interest in educational work. He is one of the Directors of the Muskegon National Bank. In 1862 he was married to Miss Mary McReynolds, daughter of Colonel A. T. McReynolds, of Grand Rapids. Her death occurred in 1872. In May, 1873, he married Miss Ellen McReynolds, his wife's sister. They have two children.

**N**IMS, FREDERICK A., Lawyer, Muskegon, was born in Adrian, Michigan, June 15, 1839. His father, Dr. D. Nims, is a leading physician of the State, and has been practicing forty-five years. Mr. Nims received a classical education. After a preparatory course, he entered Albion College in 1851, remaining two years. In 1853 he became a student in Hobart College, Geneva, New York; and, after four years' study, graduated. In 1858 he began the study of law in the office of Withey & Gray, at Grand Rapids, Michigan, and was admitted to the bar in June, 1860. For a short time after, he was editor of the Grand Rapids Daily *Enquirer*. Upon the breaking out of the Rebellion, Mr. Nims was commissioned Second Lieutenant of the 1st New York Cavalry, which was the first regiment of cavalry organized for the war. Soon after his enlistment, he was detached from his regiment, and appointed Brigade Quartermaster and Commissary, in the brigade commanded by General I. N. Palmer. He served in this capacity until the fall of 1862, when he was appointed Aid-de-camp to General W. L. Elliott, of the Potomac Army, and served for one year. He was then attached, as Aid-de-camp, to the staff of General J. C. Sullivan, who was stationed at Harper's Ferry, Virginia. In October, 1864, Mr. Nims resigned

**O**GGEL, REV. E. CHRISTIAN, Pastor of the First Reformed Church at Grand Haven, was born September 28, 1841, at Axel, in the Netherlands, Europe. He attended an excellent public school until he was fourteen years of age. His father died in February, 1856; and, in the following spring, he came to the United States, under the guidance of his brother, Professor P. J. Oggel. This brother died at Hope College, Holland, Michigan, December 13, 1869. In the fall of 1856, Mr. Oggel entered the Holland Academy, of which Rev. John Van Vleck was Principal. He there pursued his preparatory studies until 1860. In September of that year, he entered the sophomore class of Rutgers College, New Brunswick, New Jersey, and graduated with a class of seventeen in 1863. Since his conversion, in 1859, he had been filled with an ardent longing to preach the Gospel; and, during the summer of 1863, he decided to study for the ministry. He entered the Theological Seminary of the Protestant Reformed Church, at New Brunswick, New Jersey; and, in the summer of 1866, was licensed to preach. He settled at North Holland, Ottawa County, Michigan, where he was ordained, October 14, 1866, as pastor of the First Reformed Church. He preached his opening sermon from Romans i. 16: "For I am not ashamed

of the gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth." During his ministry, the membership increased largely, and a spacious church edifice, a parsonage, and a school-house were erected. He left this charge in November, 1869, having accepted an offer from the council of Hope College to become treasurer of the college and editor of *The Hope*; a religious paper started by Professor Oggel, and published at Holland, under the supervision of the council, in the interest of the Western Reformed Church. He resigned the position in January, 1871, and accepted a call to the Reformed Church at Graffschap. In June, 1872, he accepted the second formal call to the First Reformed Church at Grand Haven, and was installed, September 9, of the same year, by Dr. A. C. Van Raalte, of Holland, and Rev. C. Van der Meulen, of Grand Rapids. His congregation numbered two hundred and sixty families, and was the largest religious organization in the city. His labors there were wonderfully blessed. August 8, 1872, before entering upon his duties at Grand Haven, he was married to Elizabeth Plugger, of Holland, the second daughter of Aldert Plugger, deceased. The ceremony took place in the First Reformed Church at Holland; Rev. R. Pieters and Rev. H. Niterwyk officiating. Since Mr. Oggel entered the ministry, he has declined nine calls from churches of his denomination. He is now in the full strength of his manhood, and is devoted to his work. Mr. Oggel has recently accepted a unanimous call to the pastorate of the First Presbyterian Church at Kankakee City, Illinois, in the Presbytery of Chicago.

**O'BRIEN, THOMAS J.**, of Grand Rapids, was born at Jackson, Michigan, July 30, 1843. He received his elementary education in the public schools of Jackson and Marshall. He afterwards attended lectures in the University at Ann Arbor, and studied law for one term with John C. Fitzgerald. In 1864 he was admitted to the bar, and entered into partnership with Mr. Fitzgerald, with whom he remained until 1871. After dissolving this connection, he removed to Grand Rapids, and formed a partnership with Hon. D. Darwin Hughes. Since his admission to the bar, Mr. O'Brien has devoted his entire time to the profession for which he is so well fitted. In 1873 he was married to the eldest daughter of Hon. William A. Howard. To the energy, industry, studious habits, and forethought of Mr. O'Brien, much of the extensive business of the law firm of Hughes, O'Brien & Smiley is due. The enviable social and professional position of this gentleman may also be attributed to these qualities, which justly entitle him to a large circle of friends.

**PAGE, WELLINGTON C.**, Banker, Capitalist, and Grain Dealer, was born in Whitestown, Oneida County, New York, November 12, 1820. His father, Rufus Page, a native of Vermont, died when Wellington was but twelve years old. His mother, Susannah (Cass) Page, was born in New Hampshire, and was a cousin of General Cass. Wellington Page, at the time of his father's death, had only learned the alphabet. Being the youngest boy in the family, he was compelled to work, and did not attend school until he had reached the age of nineteen; when he went for about six months, learning to read, write, and cipher. In the spring of 1839, he removed with the family to Ronald Township, Ionia County, Michigan, where they had purchased a farm. They subsequently took possession of four hundred acres of uncultivated land in Ionia County, for which they had exchanged a farm in Eaton County. Mr. Page worked at clearing this land for fourteen years, when he bought out his brother's share in the place and started a general mercantile store. After carrying on that business successfully for eight years, during which time he was Commissioner and Treasurer of the county, he removed to Ionia, and engaged in buying and selling grain. An inventory of his assets, on the day of his arrival, showed him to be the owner of a house and lot valued at fourteen hundred dollars, and five thousand dollars in gold. A partnership, into which he afterwards entered with H. J. Wilson, was broken by the serious illness of Mr. Page; and, in the following spring, he became associated with W. P. Burhans in general banking and grain business. After a little more than three years, he bought out Mr. Burhans and continued alone for one year. He carried on business with Burton Babcock for one year, during which time he built the Second National Bank. He then entered a copartnership with his former partner, H. J. Wilson; and now the firm of Page & Wilson is one of the largest and most thoroughly established in Ionia County. Mr. Page, besides attending to the requirements of his bank and extensive commission business, has been connected with several public enterprises. He was contractor and builder of the railroad running from Portland to Greenville, now consolidated with the Detroit, Lansing and Northern Railroad; and was President and contractor of the railroad between Ionia and Stanton, besides being a stockholder in each of these roads. He contributed ten thousand dollars towards the building of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Ionia, of which he has been a member for nineteen years. He not only contributes liberally to his own church, but to those of other denominations. His early political views were in favor of the Whigs, and since the organization of the Republican party, he has been its strong supporter. He married, in April, 1841, Miss Maria Cronk, by whom he had three children. She died in the spring of 1860.



November 9, 1860, he married Amerilla O., daughter of Daniel Heath, a farmer in Palo, Michigan. This marriage has been blessed with two children,—Rufus Lee, aged twelve years, and Mary Alice, two years old. His practical talents, integrity, and Christian spirit; his interest in every measure of public importance, and his liberality, have won for him the esteem of his fellow-citizens. He is essentially a *self-made man*. His success in life has been brought about by his untiring energy, and a rule of conduct based upon unvarying honesty and persistent industry.

**PAGE, ABEL**, Farmer, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, was born in Rindge, New Hampshire, January 30, 1785. In 1807 he married Zilpha Barns, daughter of a prominent farmer of Vermont, and settled in Rutland in that State. In 1836, having lost his property by an unfortunate indorsement, he removed to the Territory of Michigan, and engaged in agriculture at Grand Rapids. Besides his more hardy labors, he engaged in the cultivation of fruit and flowers, in which he was very successful. He planted the first nursery in the Grand River Valley, and, for years, supplied the settlers with grafted fruits and rare plants. He was one of the founders of the Congregational Church in Grand Rapids, in which he labored zealously for twenty years with his pastor, the Rev. James Ballard. He was an earnest student of the Scriptures, and took an active interest in the Sabbath School. His practical but unostentatious piety made his daily life a quiet example and an abiding influence. Deacon Page died at the age of sixty-nine, of the first illness which he had ever experienced.

**PERHAM, JOHN B.**, of Spring Lake, Michigan, was born in Mayfield, Fulton County, New York, October 15, 1835. Two years later, his parents moved to Tylersville, Jefferson County. There he received a good common-school education, and remained until 1855. He taught during the winter of 1854-55; and, the following spring, removed to Dubuque, Iowa. A few months afterwards, he joined a Government surveying party on an expedition into the wilds of Minnesota. In the summer of 1856, he settled on a quarter section of land, in Steele County, Minnesota, and again engaged in surveying and teaching. During the border war of 1857, Mr. Perham emigrated to Kansas. In 1858 he returned to Tylersville, New York, and spent two years in teaching. In 1860 he settled at Spring Lake, Michigan, and taught for three years. In 1864, he entered into mercantile business,

and has now a wholesale and retail dry-goods and grocery establishment at Spring Lake, and a commodious branch store at Monica. Mr. Perham has always been a Republican. In the spring of 1874, he was elected Town Supervisor, being the first Republican in the township who was elected to that office. He has been a member of the Republican County Committee eight years, and Secretary of that Committee two terms. For twelve years, he was an energetic member of the School Board; and, a portion of that time, its director. Understanding thoroughly the requirements and necessities of systematic education, he has been an efficient and judicious counselor. He has been an active member of the village council, and permanently connected with every temperance movement which has occurred in the place during his residence there. He was instrumental in pushing to final completion the first Red-Ribbon Hall built in the interests of temperance in Michigan. At its dedication in 1877, he made an eloquent appeal to the audience, and secured a response in pledges sufficient to cover all indebtedness. He has assisted in organizing several literary societies, and has, at different times, appeared before the public as a lecturer. Mr. Perham delivered the Centennial oration at Spring Lake. He is a special correspondent of the Grand Haven daily and weekly papers; and also a member of both the Odd-Fellows and Masonic societies. November 16, 1867, he married Miss Carrie Cross, of Rockford, Kent County, Michigan.

**PECK, ARVINE, M. D.**, one of the earliest settlers in Lowell, Kent County, and now a prominent physician in that town, was born in Butler, Wayne County, New York, December 15, 1819. The first of the Peck family in this country emigrated from Wales about the middle of the last century. Dr. Arvine Peck's father, Horace Peck, was a native of Connecticut, and his mother, Anna (Burch) Peck, was born in New York State. His early educational advantages were confined to what could be obtained by attending the common schools, in the intervals of work on his father's farm. At the age of seventeen he entered Victory Academy, where he remained one year. The next three years he spent at Red Creek Academy, paying his expenses by teaching school. After leaving Red Creek, he spent some time in the study of dentistry; and, at last, was enabled to carry out his long-cherished resolution of preparing himself for the medical profession. He first pursued his medical studies under the tuition of Dr. Robert Treat Payne, and afterwards with Dr. A. T. Hendricks, under whose instruction he remained until his graduation. He attended a course of lectures at Geneva, New York; and, subsequently, at the Eclectic

Medical Institute of Cincinnati, from which he graduated in 1846 with the highest honors. Dr. Peck has not confined himself, however, to the eclectic school of medicine. Being an ardent devotee of his profession, he has studied earnestly to familiarize himself with every known method of treatment, and few physicians have met with more unvarying success. He practiced first at Clyde, Wayne County, New York, where he remained seven years. In 1854 he went to Michigan, and settled at Lowell, which then consisted of four or five cabins in the woods. Since that time he has continued the practice of his profession in the same place. His business has increased rapidly with the growth of the country, and his name has been intimately identified with every enterprise which has brought Lowell to its present flourishing condition. He served during the late war, with the rank of Captain, in the 2d Michigan Cavalry, at Madrid, Island No. 10, etc.; until, after eight months of service, his health failed, and he was obliged to return home. He was a Democrat until the Republican party was organized, to which he gave his support until 1875. He then identified himself with the National Greenback party, of which he is now an enthusiastic and intelligent member. He is outspoken in his convictions, and untiring in his advocacy of his political principles. He has been Supervisor of Lowell one year, and President of the village four years. He was married, February 19, 1842, at Victory, New York, to B. Jane Loucks. Their family consists of two sons and a daughter, only one of whom, a son, is unmarried. Dr. Peck is the oldest physician in Lowell, and commands the most extensive practice in that section of the country. His identification with the town since its infancy, and the skill and judgment which he combines with great ardor, have gained for him a high position in the community, as well as among the members of the medical profession. His face is well known, and his name almost a household word in the town of Lowell.

**P**ARKER, J. C., Dentist, Grand Rapids, was born July 18, 1829, in Gainesville, Wyoming County, New York. His ancestors were among the early settlers of Western New York. Dr. Parker attended school in his native village, and at the Genesee Wesleyan Seminary, of Lima, New York. He afterwards spent a year in Western Pennsylvania, teaching school a portion of the time, and, during the rest, acting as clerk in a dry-goods store. After spending the year 1853 as a student in the office of J. M. McCulloch, of Castile, New York, he established himself in Grand Rapids, Michigan, where he has since remained in the practice of dentistry. His thorough knowledge of his profession, close attention to

business, and courteous deportment, have been the means of gaining for him an extensive and steadily increasing practice. He has been largely identified with the educational interests of the city. He contributed to the formation of a society for the study of natural history; and has also aided in gathering the materials for the Kent Scientific Institute, which has one of the finest collections in the State. He has been a member of the Board of Education for several years. Doctor Parker is held in high esteem, not only by his professional brethren, but by his personal acquaintances. His unblemished reputation, his intelligence and skill, make him an ornament to society and the profession he has chosen. On March 31, 1857, he married Emily J., daughter of C. I. Stone, of Grand Rapids. They have three children.

**P**ECK, SAMUEL B., of Muskegon, was born at Cheshire, Connecticut, February 22, 1805. His parents, Samuel and Elizabeth (Brooks) Peck, were natives of the same place. A printed record traces the history of the Brooks family back to the emigration of Henry and John Brooks from Cheshire, England, to the New Haven Colony about 1670. The forefather of this branch of the family was Henry, a shoer of horses in Cromwell's army. Three brothers of Mr. Peck, who settled in Livingston and Wyoming counties, New York, were men of considerable note. On the old homestead, inherited by the children of the youngest brother, is a rocky cavern, called "Scotch Rocks," remarkable for having sheltered the regicides, Goff and Whalley. Tradition also traces the Peck family back several generations to English ancestry. The father of Samuel B. Peck became a Colonel in the United States Army; he was Justice of the Peace for many years. In the War of 1812, he was ordered, as Captain, to garrison a fort at New London. Mr. Peck's earliest recollections are of life in his grandmother's house in Connecticut, where his father was born, and of Cæsar, a slave boy. In 1809 he removed with his father to Prospect, Connecticut, where he was sent to school for a time; his acquirements, however, were not limited to the elementary principles taught there. As he was the second of eight sons, he found it necessary to provide for himself; and, at the age of eighteen, began his work by teaching. He never ceased to be a student, making books his tutors. He was fond of country life, and would have devoted himself to agriculture and fruit growing, if he could have selected his occupation, but circumstances seemed to force him into mercantile life. From 1825 to 1829, he was engaged as clerk in the post-offices of Hartford, Connecticut, and Canandaigua, New York. He found the night work in the latter place so irksome that he left, and went into a



store in the village. He passed some time as clerk in Granville, Ohio, and East Bloomfield, New York; and, in 1831, entered into partnership with Henry Compton. With a joint capital of five hundred dollars, the savings of their clerkships, they opened a store in Covington, New York. Two years after, his brother-in-law joined in purchasing the stock of goods, but remained on the farm, leaving the management of the business to Mr. Peck. After four years, they removed to East Bloomfield, and traded there until 1838. The next five years, he was engaged at Avon; and, in 1843, in connection with T. Devereux, he opened a store in Gorham, New York. In 1845, Mr. Devereux having withdrawn his capital and become insolvent, Mr. Peck formed a partnership with James M. Pulver, and subsequently with J. B. Murphy. In 1859, having made investments in the County of Montcalm which required frequent visits to Michigan, he removed to Muskegon, and continued in business there until burned out in the great fire of 1874. Mr. Peck held the office of President of the village of Muskegon in 1861 and 1862, and Supervisor of the township including the village in 1864, 1868, and 1869. He was one of the first to demonstrate the adaptability of the soil and climate of that region to horticulture and pomology, and he has enjoyed some reputation as a writer upon these and other subjects. He has never been party to a failure, except as creditor; has never been sued for debt, except as surety for others. He contributed five hundred dollars to bring the railroad to Muskegon, and has given liberally to all public enterprises. Mr. Peck's business relations have been remarkably pleasant, free from contention or suspicion. Just and generous in his dealings with others, he enjoys the confidence and respect of those who know him. He married, in April, 1833, Dency Cooke, of Rensselaerville, New York. They have had three children.



**P**EIRCE, JOHN W., of Grand Rapids, was born in Genesee, Livingston County, New York, December 4, 1814. He was one of a family of three brothers and three sisters. His parents emigrated from Virginia to Western New York about the time of the War of 1812. In that war his father, John Peirce, distinguished himself by honorable service, and won the rank of Colonel. John W. Peirce came upon the stage of human action at a time when the country had just passed successfully through a second war with Great Britain. He early heard accounts of the hardships of frontier life, but at the age of twenty-two went West, like thousands of others, to seek a home and fortune. Previous to this, however, he had acquired a good common-school education, and had fin-

ished a limited course of study at the Canandaigua Academy, then under the direction of the late Professor Howe. Subsequently, he acted as clerk for Mr. H. Gorham, of Canandaigua, who was then one of the leading merchants of the town. It was while with this gentleman that he resolved to try the almost unknown West. He arrived at Detroit in 1835, where he remained, as clerk for Jason Swift, until the late Hon. Charles H. Carroll purchased what was known as the village of Kent. In 1836 he removed to Grand Rapids, and opened a bookstore—in one of the two buildings erected by the Kent Company for the United States, when it was expected that the Government Land Office would be located at Grand Rapids. The project failed, however, and Ionia bore off the coveted prize. Mr. Peirce's bookstore was situated on the north-east corner of Kent and Bronson streets, where he remained until 1844. He then engaged in the dry-goods and miscellaneous trade, on the corner of Canal and Erie streets. There, about ten years later, he built the first brick store erected on Canal street,—a handsome three-story building. The fire of 1871 destroyed four stores which, by energy and prudence, he had built, and upon which there was little or no insurance. This calamity entailed a loss of thirty-one thousand dollars; but, with characteristic determination, he soon replaced the structures which had been burned. For twenty-six consecutive years he continued in trade on the same spot. In 1842 he erected the house on Ottawa street, in which he lived, uninterruptedly, until his removal, in 1871, into the elegant mansion in which he resided until his death. Much of the work required in the erection of the old house, as it was called, was done by his own hands, at a time when it was difficult to obtain either labor or money. In more senses than one, he may be said to have carved his own fortune. Mr. Peirce was, for many years, the confidential agent of Judge Carroll, of Groveland, New York, who had large interests at Grand Rapids. He managed the estate of that distinguished gentleman with great faithfulness and ability. He was secretary of the original Grand Rapids Lyceum, which existed from 1837 to 1844. He has occupied several important places of trust; such as Supervisor, School Inspector, and School Trustee. He has been stockholder in various corporations; among them the City National Bank, in which he was also a Director. In his dress and his manner of living, Mr. Peirce was plain and unostentatious; viewing all questions pertaining to the trivial things of life from a practical and, perhaps, severe stand-point. His great geniality, however, made his presence always welcome; while his wit and flow of spirits were well-springs of delight. He was temperate in all things. He married, in 1842, Sarah L. Roberts, only daughter of the late Colonel Amos Roberts. They had three children. He was one of the subscribers to the Episcopal Church organ-

ized in Grand Rapids in 1838, and its constant attendant for thirty-six years. He has several times been a vestryman of St. Mark's Church, and was a member of the committee on the erection of the original stone church in 1846. This building now stands, remodeled and improved, at the head of Pearl street. In his habits, Mr. Peirce was precise and regular, even to formality. His books, papers, files, and records were scrupulously exact and methodical. His large business was transacted in such a way as to challenge the good-will and retain the confidence of his customers. When the labors of the day were ended, he sought rest and relaxation in a home provided with all needed comforts, amid the sanctities of which he found great happiness. He died October 25, 1874.

**P**EIRCE, HON. PETER R. L., Lawyer, Grand Rapids, is the son of John Peirce, originally of Virginia, and was born at Geneseo, Livingston County, New York, May 25, 1823. During his early boyhood, he attended the common schools of Geneseo and Canandaigua. In 1836 he went to Detroit, Michigan, where he attended night schools, and read law with Hale & Harding, attorneys. In 1840 he removed to Grand Rapids, entering, as a student, the law office of George Martin, and keeping a bookstore at the same time. In 1843 Mr. Peirce removed to Cincinnati, where he engaged in mercantile pursuits, remaining seven years. During this time, he became greatly interested in the cause of temperance. At the earnest request of Lyman Beecher, Judge Bellamy Storer, and others, he wrote a history of the order of the Sons of Temperance, in Ohio. One hundred thousand copies were printed and circulated through the State. Mr. Peirce wrote largely for the Cincinnati *Commercial*, the *Times*, and *Daily Queen City*, on various public matters of interest. He returned to Grand Rapids in 1850, and continued in mercantile business for five years. He was elected Clerk of Kent County and its courts, for several successive terms of two years each; was elected to the State Senate for two years, in 1868, and became Chairman of the Standing Committee on Education. He introduced, and advocated to its final passage, a bill for abolishing the rate bill, and for making the primary schools free. He also drew up the report which resulted in the passage of the bill whereby the first moneys were appropriated from the State treasury in aid of the University of Michigan. This appropriation has been continued, the amount being increased each year. He was elected clerk of the city in 1854; and Mayor of Grand Rapids, in 1873, and again in 1875 and 1876. The Young Men's Lyceum, which was formed in 1837, received active support from Mr. Peirce. He was appointed Postmaster at Grand Rapids in 1877, by President Hayes. He has written on

various topics for the public press, and lectured on different subjects throughout the State, gaining more than a local reputation; and it is a curious incident in the life of Mr. Peirce that, for seventeen consecutive years, he has delivered an oration on the Fourth of July, in some town in the State. He has been connected with educational interests, either as trustee or as member of the School Board, for a number of years; and has held the office of Secretary of the Land Department of the Grand Rapids and Indiana Railroad Company for seven years. He has been a member of the Episcopal Church at Grand Rapids, since 1843, and assisted in laying the foundation of the first Episcopal Church erected in that city. Mr. Peirce has been a vestryman of St. Mark's Church for fifteen years, representing that parish each year in the several State Conventions. He was one of the four lay delegates from the State Convention to the General Convention, held at New York, in 1874, at which time the celebrated case of President George F. Seymour was under discussion for six days, in secret session, for confirmation as Bishop of Illinois. He was again delegate, to the General Convention of 1877, in Boston. Mr. Peirce has always been an active Republican. In May, 1843, he was married to Ellen E., daughter of Chester Steel, of Hinesburg, Vermont, who died in 1858. He was again united in marriage, in April, 1860, to Miss Cora, daughter of Samuel Mitchell, of Poughkeepsie, New York. Up to the date of this publication he has been twenty-seven years a resident of Grand Rapids.

**P**IERSON, REV. JOB, Presbyterian Minister, of Ionia, Michigan, was born in Schaghticoke, Rensselaer County, New York, February 3, 1824, and was the second son and third child of Job and Clarissa T. Pierson. His father was born in Southampton, Long Island, where the founder of the family, a Puritan colonist, settled in 1643. His mother was a native of Colchester, Connecticut, and her paternal ancestors were the Bulkeleys, who were among the first settlers of that town. After attending a district school in his native place, Mr. Pierson spent portions of the years 1834 and 1835 at Bennington, Vermont, in a school then under the charge of Rev. James Ballard. His father having, in the autumn of 1835, removed to Troy, New York, he went from Bennington to that city, and there continued his preparatory studies. In 1838 he entered Williams College, from which institution he graduated in 1842. After spending two years in his father's law office, he entered Auburn Theological Seminary in the fall of 1844, and finished his course of study there in 1847. On leaving the seminary he supplied the First Presbyterian Church of Corning, New York, for nearly a year and a half. In 1850 he accepted a call to



the Presbyterian Church at Pittsford, New York, and was there regularly ordained to the work of the Gospel ministry. In the summer of 1856, he resigned his charge and spent several months abroad, making the tour of Great Britain. On his return, he accepted a call to the Presbyterian Church of Victor, New York, of which he remained pastor until the autumn of 1863. He then removed to Kalamazoo, Michigan, and entered upon his duties as clergyman in that place. In July, 1868, he was called to the Presbyterian Church of Ionia, of which he is still the pastor. He was Moderator of the Synod of Michigan in 1872-73. Mr. Pierson is literary in his tastes, and fond of study. He has one of the largest private libraries in the State, particularly rich in the department of English Literature, to which subject he devotes much of his leisure time. Occasionally, he writes for the religious press, and gives private instruction to the young. He is the earnest friend of education, and, in various ways, has labored to promote its interests in this State. Though in his religious views a decided Calvinist, he is by no means illiberal or sectarian. A gentleman of the legal profession, who has long known him, writes as follows: "He is a man of rare ability and superior culture; ranking, for high attainments and spirituality, among the first in his denomination. He is distinguished for his liberality towards all who call themselves Christians, and has the respect and confidence of his brethren in the ministry." In February, 1849, Mr. Pierson married Miss Rachel W. Smith, of Geneva, New York, by whom he has had five children,—one daughter and four sons, all of whom are living.

**P**ARKS, GEORGE, of Grand Haven, was born in the town of Fleming, Cayuga County, New York, October 17, 1817. His father, Robert Parks, was born in Rhode Island, February 12, 1776. He went to Cayuga County, New York, in 1794, and commenced an apprenticeship to a tanner and currier. At the age of twenty-three, he was married to Polly Smith, who lived until June 30, 1844. Soon after his marriage, he moved on to a farm in the town of Fleming, and remained until about the 1st of May, 1823. He then started, with his family, for Troy, Oakland County, Michigan, where he had previously purchased land. They traveled to Buffalo, a distance of one hundred and seventy-five miles, with teams, as there was no railroad, and the Erie Canal was not yet completed. The "Superior" was then the only steamer on the lakes; and, as it was not in port, they, with twenty other families, chartered a vessel called the "Red Jacket," commanded by Captain Wilson, and arrived in Detroit, May 23, 1823. For fifteen miles around the city, there was an almost

impenetrable swamp, and Captain Parks' family were three days in going from Detroit to Troy, a distance of twenty miles. For several weeks they lived in a small log house, the floor of which they covered at night with burrs. In due course of time, a comfortable house was built; then a fine one, and a large and productive farm was cleared and improved. March 2, 1810, Captain Parks enlisted in the New York State Militia, and became a member of the 158th Regiment of New York Infantry in the War of 1812. He was made Captain of a company, and served as such until the close of the war. He was a member of the Baptist Church. On his death, June 29, 1863, the following article appeared in one of the daily papers: "Robert Parks was a veteran of the War of 1812, and died at Captain Ganoe's in this city, at the age of eighty-seven years. Mr. Parks was a Democrat from the time of the organization of that party to the day of his death; but, on the breaking out of the Rebellion, he was a War Democrat of the most thoroughly loyal stamp, and ardent in his support of the Government and the measures adopted to carry on the war and put down the Rebellion. When his grandson, Captain C. P. Parks, enlisted, and started for the front on the Western Gunboat Expedition, from which, with so many other gallant boys, he was destined never to return, the old gentleman gave him his blessing, with the injunction to remember the valor of his Revolutionary sires, and permit no stain upon their loyal fame. When asked if he thought the country would 'stand the draft' the first of the war, he answered: 'Stand it! of course it will. The Government is our Government; the nation is our nation; they must be maintained and saved.' He ardently wished to live to see the triumphant close of the war, but he passed away in 1863. He was born on the day of the battle of White Plains, in 1776, his father being in the Army of the Revolution, and at the time engaged in that battle. The following Ensign's commission, issued to the subject of this sketch, is interesting in this connection as a specimen of the style of such documents at the time it was given:

'THE PEOPLE of the State of New York, *by the Grace of God, Free and Independent:*

'To ROBERT PARKS, Gentleman, Greeting:

'WE, reposing official trust and confidence, as well in your Patriotism, Conduct, and Loyalty, as in your Valor, and readiness to do us good and faithful service, HAVE appointed and constituted, and by these Presents, DO appoint and constitute you, the said ROBERT PARKS, Ensign of a Company in the Regiment of Militia, in the county of Cayuga, whereof John Harris, Esquire, is Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant: YOU are therefore to take the said Company into your charge and care, as Ensign thereof, and duly to exercise the officers and soldiers of that company, in arms, who are hereby commanded to obey you as their Ensign, and you are also to observe and follow such orders and directions as you shall from time to time receive from our General and Commander-in-Chief of the Militia of our said State, or

any other your superior officer, according to the Rules and Discipline of War, in pursuance of the trust reposed in you; and for so doing, this shall be your commission, for and during our good pleasure, to be signified by our Council of Appointment.

‘IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, We have caused the Seal for Military Commissions to be hereunto affixed: WITNESS our Trusty and well beloved DANIEL D. TOMPKINS, Esquire, Governor of our said State General and Commander in Chief of all the Militia, and Admiral of the Navy of the same, by and with the Advice and Consent of our Council of Appointment, at our office in Albany, the twelfth Day of March, in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Ten, and in the Thirty-fourth Year of our Independence.

‘Passed the Secretary’s-Office, the 27th Day of April, 1810. DANIEL D. TOMPKINS.

‘DANIEL HALE, Secretary.’”

Captain Parks’ family consisted of fourteen children, all but two of whom lived to mature age. His oldest son, Calvin C. Parks, was born April 5, 1805. After receiving a common-school education, he commenced the study of law at Pontiac. He was admitted to the bar in 1842, and afterwards became a prominent lawyer in his own State. In 1849 he moved to Waukegan, Illinois, and practiced law there for many years. At the time of his death, he was traveling and financial member of the firm of Ferry, Williams & Parks, and had an office in Chicago and one in Waukegan. The second son, Captain Robert S. Parks, was born May 13, 1810, and received his education in the schools near his home. In 1836-7 he was a prominent speculator in Michigan; and, about the year 1844, moved to Grand Rapids. He engaged, among other things, in running steamboats on Grand River, and thus derived his title of Captain. The Indian name “Nawbeck,” which means “he bear,” was given him in 1836, while he was looking for land and speculating. William H. Parks, who was next younger than the subject of this sketch, was born November 22, 1819. He was educated in the county schools with the rest of the family. He studied law with Messrs. Hanscom & Struyer, of Pontiac, and, in May, 1843, was admitted to the bar. He practiced law in Grand Rapids, Grand Haven, and in various places on the shores of Lake Michigan, for many years; and has, at this date, a successful practice in Marquette, on Lake Superior. The youngest son, Edward W. Parks, enlisted in the War of the Rebellion, as First Assistant Engineer of the iron-clad steamer (Mississippi squadron) “Ozoca,” and remained until after the Red River expedition. While at the mouth of the river, waiting for the rest of the fleet, he learned of the death of his nephew, Charles P. Parks, son of Captain R. S. Parks. He was Chief-Engineer of Commodore Porter’s flag-ship, and was killed by a twelve-pound shot from a rebel battery while standing at his engine, descending Red River. Edward W. Parks was so excited and enraged that he determined to take

the life of every man he could in the rebel army. He accordingly went out with a foraging party, but was surrounded by the enemy. He jumped into the river, and, about an hour afterwards, was picked up by his own boat, nearly exhausted, being the only one of the party who escaped. From this exposure he contracted a chronic disorder, from which he never recovered. He returned home but to die; his remains were taken to the old family cemetery, where his father was buried. George Parks, the subject of this sketch, was the eighth child. He attended the district schools, and worked on a farm until he was twenty years of age, when he was sent to the academy at Pontiac for six months. January 14, 1846, he was married, in Troy, Oakland County, Michigan, to Permelia Wattles, daughter of Deacon Alexander Wattles, of Binghamton, New York; and, in December of the same year, moved to a fine farm in Berlin, Ionia County, Michigan. In the spring of 1843, he moved to the village of Ionia, where he kept a public-house called “The Cottage.” In August, 1844, he settled in Grand Haven, which was then a small town of only two or three hundred inhabitants. He was principally engaged, until 1852, in the woods among the Indians, looking up lands and timber. At the November election of 1852, he was made Treasurer of Ottawa County, and held the office, with the exception of one term of two years, for twelve consecutive years. The duties of this office were very arduous, as that county, up to the year 1858, included what are now the counties of Ottawa, Manistee, Mason, Oceana, and Muskegon; and the Treasurer was required to describe and make returns of all the lands located. The salary, for the first year, was four hundred dollars; but it was finally increased to nine hundred. During this time, the county was strongly Republican, and Mr. Parks was elected on the Democratic ticket by small majorities. In the fall of 1864, he was nominated, on the Democratic ticket, for Judge of Probate of Ottawa County, and was elected by a handsome majority over Hon. A. W. Taylor, who had held the office eight years. In April, 1867, Mr. Parks was elected the first Mayor of the city of Grand Haven, over Hon. Dwight Cutler, Republican candidate. He held the office for one year, and refused a re-election. In the spring of 1864, he entered into partnership, for one year, in the forwarding business with E. W. Barnes, now of Grand Rapids, and also purchased an interest in steamboats on Grand River with his brother-in-law, Captain J. Ganoe, with whom he continued three years. In 1865 he took, as a partner in the forwarding business, E. D. Blair, now of Grand Haven, and continued with him for two years, the firm name being Parks & Blair. He then entered into a connection with his eldest son, Byron W. Parks, under the firm name of Parks & Son, which continued for several years. During this time, the latter firm commenced repairing and fitting up the “old warehouse” for a sash,



door, and blind factory; and, by the year 1867, everything was completed. Finding, however, that the enterprise was not likely to succeed, they converted it to other purposes. He has, for many years, been more or less engaged in the lumber trade, and has spent most of the year 1876, and part of 1877, in Tennessee, dealing in black walnut. He is still living on Franklin street, in Grand Haven, where he has been for twenty-one years. Mr. Parks has always been a Democrat, and has held many offices. He was, for several years, Supervisor of the city and township of Grand Haven. In the fall of 1862, he ran for the State Senate against the Hon. Stetson Green, and was defeated by fifty-three votes,—the District giving some six hundred Republican majority. He is a Protestant in his religious views. His wife and two of his children belong to the Presbyterian Church. February 16, 1853, he joined Lodge No. 46 of the Independent Order of Odd-Fellows, in Grand Haven, of which he has been a valued member. He has been, several times, Noble Grand of the Lodge, and a representative to the Grand Lodge. In 1861 he was initiated as an Entered Apprentice Mason at Eastmansville Lodge. In the fall a lodge was started in Grand Haven, in which he took the remaining degrees, being made Worshipful Master the same year. He filled the position one term, and, at the end of the time, received a very fine Past-Master's jewel, as a present from the Lodge. During the year he was a representative to the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons. October 15, 1872, he took the first degree in Corinthian Chapter, No. 84, of Grand Haven, and was the first member of the Royal Arch Degree, which he took on the 22d of November following.

**P**HELPS, PHILIP, JR., of Holland City, was born at Albany, New York, July 12, 1826, and was the sixth child of Philip and Hannah (Marcroft) Phelps. His ancestors were of mingled Puritan, Dutch, and Scotch descent. His father, Philip Phelps, was born at Coeyman's, New York, July 4, 1789, and was the son of John Sawyer Phelps, of Hebron, Connecticut, a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and a lineal descendant of William Phelps, one of the pioneer settlers of Windsor, Connecticut. The following is a page of New England history:

"On the 15th of October, 1635, William Phelps and family, in company with about sixty others, set forth from Dorchester, Massachusetts, to the valley of the Connecticut River. About two weeks were spent on the journey, and each day was begun and ended with prayer and songs of praise. The following winter was exceedingly perilous and inclement. They were compelled to live part of the time on acorns and nuts. Many died of famine and frost, and a large number of cattle perished. The losses were estimated at two thousand pounds sterling."

The mother of Philip Phelps, Sen., was Catherine

Conine, of Coxsackie, New York. Her father was a Justice of the Peace under the Colonial Government, and a member of the Committee of Safety during the struggle for independence. Her paternal ancestor, Leendert Philips Conine, came from the Netherlands as early as 1655. Philip Phelps, Sen., was married, in 1813, to Hannah Marcroft, of Albany, New York. Her father, John Marcroft, of Woodstock, Connecticut, was descended from one of the earlier colonists of Roxbury, Massachusetts; and her mother was a grand-daughter of John Annan, and came from Annandale, Scotland, and settled in Baskingridge, New Jersey, about half a century before the Declaration of Independence. Philip Phelps, Sen., held an arduous and responsible position in the Comptroller's office of the State of New York for fifty years; and, on account of his rare fidelity and integrity, received unusual tokens of regard from the State. For more than half a century, he was a consistent member and office-bearer of the Reformed Dutch Church. On the Fourth of July, 1876, the eighty-seventh anniversary of his own birthday, he sat at his window in Albany and saw the great Centennial procession file by. A few days after, he departed this life, full of years and honors, survived by his consort, three daughters, and two sons. One of his daughters is the wife of Dr. Erasmus Darwin Jones, of Albany. His youngest son, William L. Marcy Phelps, is Treasurer of the Albany and Susquehanna Railroad. His other son is Philip Phelps, Jun., the subject of this sketch. Neither time nor money was spared in his education. He spent nine years in the Albany Academy, then one of the most eminent schools in the country, under such distinguished teachers as Drs. T. Romeyn Beck, Peter Bullions, and Philip Ten Eyck. He entered the junior class of Union College, at Schenectady, during the presidency of Dr. Eliphalet Nott, and the vice-presidency of Bishop Alonzo Potter, and was graduated in 1844, at the age of eighteen. Among his classmates were Wm. H. H. Moore, of the Atlantic Insurance Company of New York; Professor M. Wendell Lamoureux, of Union College; Professor Charles A. Joy, of Columbia College; Governor Alexander H. Rice, of Massachusetts; and Henry E. Niles, D. D., of York, Pennsylvania. While in college, he was converted, and entered the communion of the church whose pastor was Isaac N. Wickoff, D. D. After graduating, he spent some two years in teaching, during which he also edited the *Youths' Temperance Enterprise*, a paper published by the New York State Youths' Temperance Society, of whose Executive Committee he was Chairman. In 1846 he entered the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Church, at New Brunswick, New Jersey, one of whose professors was the gifted but eccentric Alexander McClelland, D. D. Here he pursued the usual course of three years. For six months of this time, he was teacher of ancient

languages in the school of Major Kinsley, at West Point, and kept up his studies by means of notes taken by his classmates in the lecture-room and communicated in letters. After receiving his license to preach, he suffered for a number of months from ill health. This, however, proved an important part of his preparation for the ministry, by deepening his views of ministerial consecration. It led, also, to a life-long friendship with Dr. Henry Foster, the eminent and beloved physician of Clifton Springs, New York. At length, in the summer of 1850, he entered upon the pastorate of the old Greenburg Church, in Westchester County, New York, among whose elders had been Isaac Van Wort, one of the captors of Andre. This charge was in connection with a missionary station at Hastings-upon-Hudson, to which, after two years, he devoted his whole time, and was instrumental in establishing a strong and flourishing church. Much of the success of this enterprise, under the Divine blessing, he attributes to the character and labors of Elder Albert Chrystie and his excellent family. In addition to his ministerial work, Mr. Phelps, for several years, conducted a school under the auspices of Dr. John W. Draper, the illustrious author and educator. In 1853 he was married to Margaret Anne Jordan, of Albany, New York, whose parents, Edward Jordan and Jane Howe, came from the north of Ireland, and were of Huguenot extraction. Mr. Phelps has four children living, namely: Frances Few Chrystie, Philip, Eliza, and Theodore Seth. The last received his name because he was the gift of God after the death of a son, Edward Jordan Howe, whose loss had been a peculiar affliction. In 1859 Mr. Phelps accepted an appointment as Missionary Pastor and Principal of the Academy at Holland, Michigan. His farewell sermon at Hastings-upon-Hudson, from 2 Corinthians, x. 15, 16, reviewed the statistics of his charge, as follows: "The congregation, though comparatively small, comprised representatives from England, Scotland, Ireland, Holland, France, Germany, Switzerland, South America, and Canada, as well as from various sections of the United States. The membership included those who had been formerly connected with the Reformed Dutch, Episcopal, Old and New School Presbyterian, Congregational, Methodist, Lutheran, and different European churches; while there had also been among the regular attendants and pew-holders Baptists, Friends, Unitarians, and Romanists." Yet he called the people to witness that, during the entire nine years of his ministry among them, not a single usage of the denomination had been omitted, nor a single doctrine withheld or modified. With the apostle, he said: "Grace be with all them that love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity;" and, with the same apostle, added: "If any man love not our Lord Jesus Christ, let him be *anathema maranatha*." He impressed upon them his conviction that "any one who, as a helpless, ruined

sinner, believes in the Lord Jesus Christ for justification and sanctification, and walks in a new and righteous life, is a Christian and will be saved." He regards his own church with intense and intelligent affection, but loves the enlightened catholic profession of Christ, wherever it appears, and hails the day when, as with the disciples at Antioch, the whole family in heaven and earth shall be named of Him and of Him alone. He was called from this church,—which was his first charge, and he its first pastor,—from friends, whose superiors he could never find, and from a locality which, through close proximity to the great metropolis, possessed most of its advantages and at the same time was a paradise of rural charms, to a Western wilderness—to make a home among strangers. He obeyed the summons, and assumed the charge of the Holland Academy. This school had been established by the Reformed Church, through the instrumentality of Dr. Albertus C. Van Raalte, founder of the Holland Colony in Michigan, and Dr. John Garretson, Secretary of the Board of Missions. Its first Principal was Elder Walter T. Taylor, of Geneva, New York, (1851–54), who taught Latin in the local school. He was succeeded by Rev. John Van Vleck, under whom the institution began to assume importance as a preparatory school. On the accession of Mr. Phelps, he found thirty-two pupils, of whom five were ready for Freshman studies. His first efforts were directed to a rigid classification of the students preparatory to separation into distinct departments. He then took such steps as were requisite for making the school an institution complete in itself. This led to the formation, in 1862, of the first Freshman Class, of nine members, which was followed, in 1863, by the appointment of the first Board of Superintendents. Chiefly through the exertions and sacrifices of Mr. Phelps, a sufficient endowment for incorporation was obtained in 1866, when the Holland Academy was elevated into Hope College; the Board of Superintendents becoming its Council, and the Principal its President. Under his new title, Mr. Phelps was duly inaugurated, July 12, 1866, and had the satisfaction of graduating a class of eight young men, as the first fruits of his labors. But the rapid development of this educational germ did not stop here. The first class which graduated was permitted, at its own request, to pursue theological studies in the new college. Thus was laid the foundation of its Theological Department, from which about thirty have since entered the ministry. The endowment fund, by the co-operation with the President, of Dr. Van Raalte and Professors Oggel, Rollen, and others, has risen to upward of one hundred thousand dollars. Among the principal benefactors of the college are Samuel B. Schieffelin, James Suydam, William H. H. Moore, the family of Colonel William Few, Rev. Dr. Thomas De Witt, Morris R. Jessup, of New York City, Stephen Van Rensselaer, and Mrs. Mar



garet L. Abbe, of Albany, New York. In 1864 Mr. Phelps was chosen President of the General Synod, Reformed Church of America, at its annual session at Schenectady, New York, and received the degree of Doctor of Divinity from the University of New York. Among other labors, he laid the foundation of a Publication Department for the college, by securing a printing establishment and issuing three numbers of a theological periodical called *The Searcher*. He still remains at the head of the institution with whose early struggles he has been so closely identified.

**P**HILLIPS, HORACE, A. M., Superintendent of the Grand Haven Public Schools, was born at Ypsilanti, Michigan, September 15, 1846, and was the son of William H. and Olive (Weld) Phillips. His early education was obtained in the union school at Ypsilanti, under the direction of Rev. Joseph Estabrook. He graduated in June, 1866. In the following year, he entered the University of Michigan, from which he graduated as A. B. in 1871. Three years later, he received the degree of A. M. He commenced teaching at the age of eighteen years, and was thus occupied two years and a half before entering the University. After graduating, he had charge of union schools five years, and was one year Principal of the high school at Flint. From Flint he removed to St. Clair, where he was Superintendent of schools for three years. In 1877, he accepted the position of Superintendent of Grand Haven public schools. Mr. Phillips gained his collegiate education almost entirely through his own efforts, making available the knowledge he had already acquired by teaching to cover his expenses. He attributes his success to patient, earnest industry, and to habits of strict temperance. During three sessions of the State Senate, he has officiated as Assistant Secretary. He was married, August 7, 1872, to Fanny M. Jones. They have one daughter. Mr. Phillips is modest and genial; a man of thorough culture, and eminently successful as a teacher.

**P**LATT, ALONZO, M. D., was born at Stephentown, Rensselaer County, New York, on the 10th day of January, 1806. His father, Judge Henry Platt, was a farmer, miller, and merchant. His mother, whose maiden name was Susan De La Vergne, was a descendant of the French Huguenots. Dr. Platt prepared for college, at the academy of Lenox, Berkshire County, Massachusetts; but, as he was about to enter, he was suddenly attacked with inflammation of the eyes, which compelled him to relinquish the idea of a college course. In 1825 he began the study of medi-

cine and surgery in the office of Dr. Wright, of New Lebanon, New York, remaining two years; he then entered the office of Dr. John De La Mater, of Sheffield, Massachusetts, and continued with him until 1829, in which year he graduated at the Berkshire Medical College. In 1830 he commenced the practice of medicine at Port Gibson, Ontario County, New York, and remained until the spring of 1832, when he removed to Ann Arbor, Michigan. Ten years later, Dr. Platt came to Grand Rapids, where he has since resided. For a number of years, his practice was large and laborious; but, recently, owing to ill health, he has retired from the more active duties of his profession, giving a portion of his time to consultations and to services among the poor, and having charge of St. Mark's Home and Hospital. He has a free dispensary, which is kept up at his own expense. Dr. Platt's first vote was cast in favor of the Whig ticket; since that time he has acted with the Republican party. He is a member of the Episcopal Church, and has been Senior Warden for over thirty years; he is a prominent layman in the diocese of Western Michigan, being a member of the standing committee, and occupying other positions of honor and trust. In the fall of 1832, he married Miss Laurella Smith, daughter of Stoddard Smith, a prominent lawyer of Greene County, New York. Dr. Platt has been assiduous in the duties of his profession, and is regarded as one of the best physicians in Grand Rapids. He is a straightforward, conscientious gentleman of the old school.

**P**RITCHARD, BENJAMIN D., Brevet-General, Banker and Lawyer, of Allegan, was born in Wilson Township, Portage County, Ohio, January 29, 1835. His parents, Lambert and Zilphia (Adams) Pritchard, were Americans, of English descent. His father was a well-to-do farmer. Mr. B. D. Pritchard attended the Western Reserve College, of which Professor Garfield was President, and also the University of Ann Arbor, Michigan, where he took a full course in the law department. He was admitted to the bar in March, 1860, and immediately commenced practice. This he continued a year and a half, in copartnership with Hon. W. B. Williams, ex-Congressman from the Fifth District of Michigan. At the breaking out of the Rebellion, Mr. Pritchard put forth every energy, and raised a company of one hundred and five men for Michigan cavalry, after which he enlisted as a private, but was immediately commissioned Captain. The first engagement in which he participated was the battle of Stone River, December 23, 1862. In the numerous engagements at that place, he led the 4th Michigan Cavalry. He afterwards participated, with the Army of the Cumberland, in every engagement until that of Atlanta.

In the battle of Chickamauga, September 19, 1863, he was wounded by a shell, and was thus kept from taking part in the fight at Atlanta. He remained at the hospital only thirty days, however, when he was put on duty at Camp Smith, near Nashville, Tennessee, to drill recruits, etc. In the spring of 1863, he again took command of his battalion. After the fall of Atlanta, he moved back to Rome, and from there to Louisville, with the whole division, under General Long. Captain Pritchard was, at that time, promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel. He remained at Louisville until January, 1865, and was then remounted, after which he took command of the regiment, and moved with it to Gravelly Spring. Shortly after arriving there, he commenced a twenty-two days march, with twelve thousand cavalry troops, through the enemy's country, and captured Selma, Alabama, Montgomery, and Columbus, Georgia. At this point he received, by telegraph, imperative orders to take two regiments, make forced marches, and capture and hold what are now known as the "Double Bridges," over the Flint River; these being the only bridges left over which the Federal Army could cross. The Confederates were already in possession of this bridge, but were waiting to get their troops over. Lieutenant-Colonel Pritchard, with the 4th Michigan Cavalry and 3d Ohio Regiment, immediately started on the hazardous undertaking; and, though the way was overspread with rebels, they accomplished the fifty-mile march by the following morning; surprised the enemy, captured the bridge by a charge, and held it until the Union Army arrived and crossed at leisure. He then moved on, with the troops, to Macon, Georgia, which surrendered; after which he encamped there until the 7th of May, 1865, when he received secret orders to intercept the Confederate President, Jefferson Davis, and other officers who were fleeing, and were supposed to be at or near Irwinsville, the county-seat of Irwin County. This he succeeded in doing, May 10, 1865, as Mr. Davis was attempting to cross the picket line in woman's clothes. Mr. Davis' whole family, and the following leaders in the Rebellion, were taken near by: Postmaster-General John H. Reagan; Colonel Lambbuck, ex-Governor of Texas and military aid to Mr. Davis; William Preston Johnston, also an aid; J. D. and Maggie Howell, brother and sister of Mrs. Davis; and about twenty-three other persons. Three ambulances and a wagon train were included in the capture. Colonel Pritchard was then detailed to retain his prisoners. Upon his arrival with them at Macon, he received, in addition, Clement C. Clay and his wife, supposed aids in the assassination of President Lincoln; and, at Augusta, Alexander H. Stephens and Confederate Major-General Wheeler and staff. After twelve days, he reached Fortress Monroe, where, by order of the War Department, he left his prisoners, taking a receipt for their delivery. He was then ordered to

report, in person, to Secretary Stanton, from whom he received the thanks of the War Department and of the public, and was brevetted Brigadier-General of Volunteers. General Pritchard's official report, relative to the disguise of Mr. Davis at the time of his capture, was accepted, after thirty days. He then rejoined his command at Nashville, Tennessee, where he remained until he was mustered from the service. He immediately returned to Allegan, Michigan, where he was engaged in copartnership with Judge Williams until the fall of 1868. In 1866 he was elected Commissioner of the State Land Office, and was re-elected in 1868, when he severed his partnership with Judge Williams. In 1872 he organized the First National Bank of Allegan, and was elected its President and Manager. He has dealt largely in real estate since his residence in Allegan. He is a staunch Republican in politics, and an active worker for party interests, though not an aspirant for office. He was largely instrumental in securing the election of Judge Williams to Congress. General Pritchard is an Odd-Fellow of high standing, having passed all the chairs. He is a strong believer in Christianity. He was married, September 1, 1864, to Miss Mary B. Kent, a native of Ohio. They have two children,—a son and a daughter.

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**P**OWER, DOCTOR HARRISON H., of Saranac, Michigan, was born in Farmington, Ontario County, New York, April 9, 1827. He is of Scotch-Irish descent. His grandfather was killed in the battle of Bunker Hill. His father, Arnold Power, was an enterprising farmer of New York State. Dr. Power was one of a family of thirteen children. While a boy at home, he rebelled against parental authority, and ran away for two weeks to escape punishment. He afterwards passed three years in school at Macedon Centre, and at the academy in Canandaigua, New York. In the spring of 1847, he went to Rollin, Lenawee County, Michigan, and, as a student, entered the office of his uncle, Dr. James S. Power. He attended lectures at Buffalo and Geneva, where he graduated in 1850. He commenced the practice of his profession at Rollin; and, before settling permanently at Saranac, spent a year in the pine woods, working both as a physician and lumberman. During that time, he took out about nine hundred thousand feet of lumber, but the agent whom he employed absconded with the proceeds, and left him eight hundred dollars in debt. He established himself at Saranac; and, after seven years of practice, paid this debt, and built his present comfortable home. He has now an extensive field of labor, embracing nearly all Ionia County, and part of Kent. In the spring of 1864, he entered the army, and was connected with the Third Brigade, Third Division, Ninth Corps,



under General Burnside, as Prescribing Surgeon for the field hospital. While occupying this position, he took part in the battles of North Anna, Bethesda Church, Cold Harbor, and Petersburg. He was compelled by ill health to resign, and was then appointed Recording Surgeon. In the fall of the same year, under Governor Blair, he became Surgeon of the new 3d Michigan Volunteer Infantry. He accompanied his regiment to Alabama, and was engaged in the battles of Decatur and Murfreesboro. At the close of the war, Dr. Power returned to his professional duties at Saranac. He is now a conservative Republican, but was formerly a Whig, and cast his first vote for Zachary Taylor. He married, October 9, 1850, Eunice Kealey, daughter of Edmund Kealey, of Rollin, Lenawee County, Michigan, who had emigrated from Ireland a few years previous. Mrs. Power is a lady of rare talents and accomplishments, a thoughtful mother, and devoted wife. Dr. Power has an intense love for his profession, and stands among the first physicians of Michigan. His eldest daughter is the wife of William L. Strickland, of Ionia, the author of "The Legal Commercial Union."

**P**OWERS, HON. WILLIAM T., of Grand Rapids, was born in the town of Bristol, Grafton County, New Hampshire, on the 8th of July, 1820. His parents, Jonathan and Anna Powers, were natives of the same place. They removed to Lansingburg, New York, in 1826, where the subject of this sketch received a common-school education. He served an apprenticeship of three years at cabinet-making; and, going to Troy, New York, engaged in that business on his own account. The competition being great, he resolved to locate elsewhere; and, in 1847, removed to Grand Rapids, Michigan, where he began, in a small way, with very little capital. By patience, industry, and perseverance, in fifteen years he built up a business in which he gave employment to about fifty men. He first introduced machinery largely into the manufacture of furniture at Grand Rapids; and, in 1852, built the first stationary circular saw-mill in the State. With an intermission of but two years, he has since that date continued to manufacture lumber. In 1866 Mr. Powers purchased three-quarters of a mile of water-power frontage, on the west side of Grand River, in the city of Grand Rapids; and, in connection with the water-power owners on the east side, built the dam now in use. In the following year, he built a canal through his property, and thus became sole owner of the west side water-power, which has a capacity of sixty-six run of stone; each run being estimated equal to fifteen-horse power. Since the completion of this canal, he has erected on its banks a number of buildings for manufacturing pur-

poses, which have been in successful operation for some years. Since coming to Grand Rapids, Mr. Powers has put up nearly thirty buildings for various purposes, most of which were finished in 1873. Among them is Powers' Opera House, so-called, on Pearl street, one hundred and twenty by one hundred and thirty-two feet, and four stories high. It contains the largest public hall in the city; most conveniently arranged, and capable of seating nearly fifteen hundred persons. As we have intimated, Mr. Powers arrived at Grand Rapids thirty years ago, with very little capital; but, by steady business habits, and an enterprising spirit, he has gained wealth and influence second to none of his fellow-citizens. Thus is he fully entitled to rank as one of the self-made men of the State of his adoption. An active politician; has never sought office, although he has been elected to honorable positions. In 1857 he was chosen Mayor, and served one term. Since the organization of the Board of Public Works, he has, in the capacity of one of its members, been actively engaged in the interests of the city. In 1838, at Troy, New York, Mr. Powers married Miss Louisa Hall, a native of London, England, whose parents emigrated to America when she was a child. They have had a family of six children, four of whom—two sons and two daughters—are living. Mr. Powers has, from boyhood, sustained a good moral character. He has shown great enterprise in what he has done, and is doing, at Grand Rapids; never stopping half way, but pushing his plans to completion. He always fills his engagements satisfactorily; is exceedingly kind to those in his employment, and is held in high esteem by all of his acquaintances.

**R**AND, CAPTAIN THOMAS J., of Muskegon, was born in Charlestown, Massachusetts, in 1805. Before he was eleven years old, both his parents died, and he was placed as errand boy in a large shipping house in Boston. He remained there four years, during which time he laid the foundation of those business qualifications which were so useful during his long and busy life. When fifteen years old, having a desire to become acquainted with the sea, he shipped as cabin-boy on an East India merchantman. This life he followed many years, rising, by his faithful performance of duty, to higher positions. At the age of twenty-five, by virtue of some speculations which he was permitted to make, he became commander and part owner of a fine vessel of one thousand tons, trading between Boston and all parts of the world. Its special trade, however, was with the East Indies. Most of the time, owing to his knowledge and strict business habits, he was supercargo of the vessel. He visited nearly every place on the globe, and obtained much useful informa-

tion, which made him a very interesting companion. When about thirty-seven years old, he left the sea and formed a business connection in New York City. This proved unfortunate; and, in 1845, he removed with his family to a farm near Kenosha, Wisconsin. The retired life of a farmer was not suited to him; he soon became dissatisfied; and, in 1854, he removed to Muskegon, Michigan, where, for several years, he was actively engaged in business for C. Davis & Co. In 1857 he undertook the management of the large real estate interests of Judge Newell. He became largely identified with the interests of the town of Muskegon, and lived to see it become a city of nearly ten thousand inhabitants. During this time, he made many warm friends who still cherish his memory. About the year 1859, he opened a bank, which, for many years, was the only one in Muskegon. In 1864, the business had so increased that he gave it his whole attention, establishing an Exchange Bank with more extended facilities. In 1863, or 1864, he was elected County Treasurer. Mr. Rand's ambition was to live so that, after death, all men could say with truth, "here rests an honest man." He was married, in 1831, to Sarah Glover, of Beverly, Massachusetts. He died, December 17, 1872. His friends, mindful of his wishes, have marked his grave with a tablet bearing his chosen inscription. Mr. Rand's death had such an effect upon the business of the place, that it became necessary for those men who had long patronized him to establish a National Bank. His banking house and lots, with the furniture and fixtures, were purchased of his administrator, and the Lumbermen's National Bank was established, February 5, 1873.

**R**EIVERS, REV. HENRY, late of Muskegon, was born in Grubenvorst, Limburg, Holland, November 12, 1822. He received his education in the college of Wardt. While a student, he was drafted into the army, and served the term required by law. He then returned to Wardt, concluded his studies, and was ordained priest, August 24, 1851. Immediately after his ordination, he came to America as Priest of Foreign Missions; he offered his services to Bishop Le Fèvre, of Detroit, who put him in charge of the Mission of Vienna, in Michigan. He was afterwards transferred to Monroe, where he remained two years. In 1858 he was placed in charge of the Church of St. Patrick, in Grattan, Kent County, and remained there until July, 1866. In that year, he became pastor of St. Mary's Church, in Muskegon, and retained the position for ten years, zealously discharging his duties. He died, February 5, 1877, aged fifty-four years and three months. The obsequies, from the church to the cemetery, were conducted by Rev. Jacob Hetz. A solemn

requiem mass was sung by Bishop Borgen, of Detroit, as celebrant; Rev. Father Puloker, of Detroit, as deacon; and Rev. Father Murphy, of Grand Haven, as sub-deacon, assisted by fifteen or twenty priests from different States. The funeral sermon was preached by Father Limpins, of Grand Rapids. Father Reivers was a whole-souled man, of fine attainments, but of a diffident nature. He was courteous and hospitable to all men, irrespective of their belief. He was greatly beloved in his church, and respected by the entire community.

**R**ANDALL, LEONARD H., Banker, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, was born in Genesee County, New York, November 1, 1829. His parents, Elias and Sally (Winslow) Randall, were born in Windsor County, Vermont. Mr. Randall's early education was obtained in the public schools of Genesee County. In 1843 his father removed with the family to Genesee County, Michigan, and there, for five years, the son attended school in winter, and worked on the farm in summer. In 1844 the sudden death of his father left Mr. Randall, then but fifteen years old, the principal support of his step-mother and four young children. In 1848 his step-mother again married; and he, feeling the necessity of a higher education than that then afforded by the schools near his home, left Michigan, and returned to New York, where he attended school for some months. In the spring of 1849, he went to Hamilton, Canada, and engaged as clerk in a general mercantile store, where he continued four years. During those years, he acquired an excellent knowledge of the business, and prudently saved the greater part of his salary. In 1853, at St. George, in the Province of Ontario, Canada, he went into the general mercantile business on his own account. In 1857 he decided to make a change; and, selling out his stock, removed to Grand Rapids, Michigan. There he at once engaged in the wholesale and retail grocery business, in which he continued until 1865. In that year, he decided to confine his operations to the wholesale department, and established the first exclusively wholesale grocery of Grand Rapids. The annual sales of the house amounted to more than half a million dollars. He continued in this business until 1875, and then withdrew in favor of Freeman, Hawkins & Co., young men who had long been employed by him. He retained but a special partnership, and devoted his time to banking. At its organization, Mr. Randall identified himself with the First National Bank of Grand Rapids; he was one of its Directors and a large stockholder. On the 1st of January, 1874, in connection with Mr. Darragh, he established, under the firm name of Randall & Darragh, a private bank of discount and deposit, to which he has





*L. H. Randall.*  
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*Eng. by H. H. & Sons, 13 Broadway, N.Y.*





since given most of his attention. In addition, however, to the pursuits mentioned, Mr. Randall has been interested, during the past ten years, in the organization and continuance of a number of manufacturing enterprises, and also in the several lines of railway passing through Grand Rapids. He is an adherent of the Democratic party, and, in 1871, was elected Mayor of the city. In 1875 he was elected City Treasurer, and was re-elected in 1876 and 1877. On the 8th of January, 1856, he married Miss Mary Jane Byrne, a daughter of Daniel Byrne, of Ontario, Canada. Mr. Randall represents that type known as "the self-made man." As we have seen, he was early thrown upon his own resources; but, depending upon his individual exertions, he has overcome all difficulties. To-day, while yet in the prime of life, he stands in the front rank of the solid business men of his community. He is a man of untiring energy, keen foresight, sound judgment, and strict integrity. His charities are large, well directed, and given without ostentation. In his social relations, he is kind-hearted, genial, and amiable, yet decided in the expression of his opinions. He makes friends readily, and by his manly demeanor retains them. He is highly esteemed by the community.

**R**ICH, HON. HAMPTON, of Ionia, Michigan, was born at Sharon, Addison County, Vermont, December 1, 1815, and was the son of Samuel and Mary (Bailey) Rich, both natives of Vermont. His father was a member of a family still prominent in that part of the country; one of his brothers, Charles Rich, having represented Vermont in Congress, from 1820 to 1824. Mr. Hampton Rich was named for General Wade Hampton, under whom his father fought in the War of 1812, and for whom he cherished an ardent admiration. Mr. Rich's parents removed, during his childhood, from Vermont to St. Lawrence County, New York, and afterwards, to Prescott, Canada. Here his father died in 1825, leaving the support of the family to the devoted wife and mother, who lived until February, 1856. Hampton Rich received a common-school education at Prescott, after which he attended, for a short time, an academy at Ogdensburg, New York. His father's death having left the family in poor circumstances, he was early obliged to leave school and obtain some lucrative employment. The first position he obtained was that of clerk in a dry-goods store. He evinced such an aptitude for business that, at the age of nineteen, he was entrusted with the sole charge of the large mercantile establishment of Averill & Hooker, at Kemptville, near Prescott, and retained the position for over two years. Then, at the solicitation of Mr. Warner, who had opened a general store at Ionia, Michigan, he left Canada to engage in his employment. He entered Ionia on foot and alone,—

the horse, which he had intended to ride from Detroit, having given out on the journey,—and at once applied himself to his business. He remained with Mr. Warner about three years. In 1846 he engaged with Mr. Edward Stevenson, in the boot, shoe, and clothing business, and continued with him until 1853. From that time until 1875, he dealt in general merchandise. He then retired from business. Almost from the time of his arrival at Ionia, Mr. Rich's history has been interwoven with that of the town and county. Noted as a successful business man, he was no less marked as a public-spirited citizen, and was early called upon by the people to serve in public life. As early as 1838, he was elected Town Clerk, and held the office several years. For six years he was Justice of the Peace, part of the time combining the office with that of Town Clerk. In 1841 he was elected County Clerk, and was honored by a re-election in 1846. He also held the office of Supervisor for two years. In 1864 Mr. Rich took an active part in the movement to build a railroad from Ionia to Lansing. The necessary legislation not having been secured, Mr. Rich, against his earnest protestations, was elected to the Senate in 1866 and again in 1868; he finally succeeded in securing the passage of the act authorizing the construction of the road. Upon the organization of the Ionia and Lansing Railroad Company, he became its first President, and retained that position for some time, performing the double duties of President and Treasurer, until its consolidation with the Detroit, Lansing and Northern Railroad. When Mr. Rich first went to Ionia, the town consisted of very few buildings, of which the land office was the nucleus; in every movement to promote its growth, he bore a prominent part, contributing freely of his time and money. He has been particularly active in school matters; and, both as a private citizen and in his official capacity on the School Board, has exerted himself to the utmost to secure the best educational interests. After taking an important part in negotiating for the construction of a school-house, he personally superintended its erection; it now crowns the hill, and is an acknowledged ornament to the town. Among other matters of public interest, with which Mr. Rich's name is prominently identified, may be mentioned the location in Ionia of the railroad shops of the Detroit, Lansing and Northern Railroad; also the successful efforts made towards having the prison located in Ionia. This building was under Mr. Rich's supervision, and the universal testimony is that, in stability of workmanship, and cheapness of execution, it surpasses any thing of the kind in the State. The citizens of Ionia regard this structure with a very pardonable pride. Mr. Rich is Chairman of the Board of Managers of the House of Correction. He is not a member of any secret society. He is connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and has been Superintendent of the Sabbath School for twenty-

seven years. He was actively interested, and assisted materially, in the erection of the beautiful and costly church building in which his denomination worship. He originated the greater part of the plans, and personally supervised the erection of the building. He married, November 12, 1840, on her nineteenth birthday, Jessie M. Stevenson, whose lovely character won the esteem of all who knew her. She died July 14, 1860, leaving four children, who are still living. Mr. Rich was married again, in August, 1862, to Charlotte Dygert, of Utica, New York. She is still living, and has a family of three children. Mr. Rich is of fine personal appearance, and is universally esteemed in the community in which he is so active and efficient.

**R**ICHMOND, WILLIAM ALMY, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, was born in the beautiful village of Aurora, on Cayuga Lake, January 28, 1808. The previous year his parents, Jonathan and Rebecca Richmond, performed the long journey from Westport, Massachusetts, to Aurora, New York, through the wilderness, on horseback. They were among the first settlers of Cayuga County, and, from the home there established, sent forth, during a period of fifty years, a large family to assist in settling different portions of the Great West. The eldest son gave thirty-five years to Michigan; two of his children have pressed, in their turn, to the frontier, and have identified themselves, for ten years past, with the promising State of Kansas. Mr. Richmond was educated at the Cayuga Academy,—an institution which, at that time, numbered among its faculty the honored Salem Town, of “speller and definer” notoriety. During his leisure hours, Mr. Richmond was employed in labor on his father’s farm. His ambitious thoughts were constantly wandering to the great world outside the quiet village; and, after leaving school, he spent two years as clerk in the employment of Henry Howard, of Geneseo, subsequently first State Treasurer of Michigan. In 1828 Mr. Richmond, then a young man of twenty, led by attractive reports from the “Peninsular Territory,” joined an exploring party, and penetrated the wilderness as far as the village of Pontiac. On his return East, two years were passed as clerk in a silk house on Pearl street, New York City; he then engaged two years in mercantile business for himself. In 1834 he again went to Michigan, with the intention of making it his home; but, after suffering from cholera and fever, he decided to leave the State. In 1836, in company with Mr. Philander Tracy, whose life also became identified with Michigan, Mr. Richmond made another effort toward a residence in that Territory. The already far-famed Grand River Valley was their objective point. They arrived at Grand Rapids, a

stirring little Indian trading-post of about two hundred inhabitants; were favorably impressed, and decided to travel no farther. Grand Rapids now, in 1878, is the most energetic and progressive place in the State, and ranks next to Detroit in size. Messrs. Charles H. Carroll, Lucius Lyon, John Almy, and Mr. Richmond immediately purchased the so-called “Kent Plat.” In the same year, 1836, Mr. Richmond was elected to the Convention assembled at Ann Arbor, by proclamation of Governor Mason, for the purpose of converting the Territory into a State. From that time he was identified with the leading interests of Grand Rapids and the State at large. In 1838 he was appointed, by President Van Buren, Receiver of the Ionia Land District. From 1842 to 1845 he served ably in the State Senate, and was instrumental in the passing of the bill appropriating six thousand acres of land for the construction of the first bridge across the Grand River, at Grand Rapids. In 1845 the position of Superintendent of Indian Affairs was conferred on him by President Polk. In 1851 he was candidate for Lieutenant-Governor on the Democratic ticket with Governor Barry. He held two commissions as Brigadier-General of State militia. He was, for some years, one of the Directors of the Michigan Southern Railroad, and took an active interest in the extension of railroads in the State. His religious creed made him an active churchman. He was a man of fine business talent,—of enterprise steadied by caution. He filled with acknowledged ability the several public offices to which he was called; and was remarkable for his clear intellect and sound judgment. Such a man must necessarily be intimately associated with the growth and prosperity of his State; and Mr. Richmond’s name is enrolled among Michigan’s honored pioneers. He married, in November, 1837, Loraine Z. Page, daughter of Abel Page, one of the first settlers in Grand Rapids. They had three children. He died at Grand Rapids, in the summer of 1870, at the age of sixty-two.

**R**EYNOLDS, J. N., M. D., Homeopathic Physician and Surgeon, of Grand Haven, Michigan, was born in Porter County, Indiana, August 24, 1844. His father, Justus Reynolds, was a prominent farmer and stock-raiser. When about eight years of age, Mr. Reynolds removed, with his parents, to Ingersoll, Canada, where he received a thorough classical education, and determined to study medicine. At the age of twenty, he entered, as a student, the office of Dr. W. Springer, a prominent homeopathic physician of Ingersoll, with whom he remained one year. He then entered the Cleveland Homeopathic Medical College, where he made rapid progress. After six months, he returned to Ingersoll, and spent a second year with Mr. Springer.



In November, 1866, he removed to St. Louis, and entered the Missouri Homeopathic Medical College, from which he graduated in the spring of 1867. He practiced six months in Baltimore, Michigan, and then removed to St. Clair, where he remained one year, in partnership with Dr. G. Palmer. In November, 1869, he removed to Grand Haven, where he still resides. Although young, Doctor Reynolds has acquired a very lucrative practice, and ranks among the best physicians in the State. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and is liberal in his religious views. He belongs to the Masonic Fraternity. He has always been a Democrat. In September, 1869, he was married to Miss Florence E. Keeler, eldest daughter of Captain S. C. Keeler, formerly of Detroit. Captain Keeler was formerly a prominent steamboat proprietor, and invented the plan of building steam-tugs with elevated cabins; he now resides in South America. Doctor Reynolds has had four children, two of whom are living.

**R**OBINSON, JAMES D., Manufacturer and Lumber Merchant, Grand Rapids, was born in Belfast, Ireland, April 17, 1822. He is the son of David and Mary Robinson, who emigrated to America, in 1822, and settled in Bateman, New York. When James was six years of age, his mother died, and he was sent to live with an uncle. Four years later, his father having married again, he removed with the family to Richland, Oswego County, New York. In the fall of 1836, the family started for the West, going by boat from Oswego to Rochester; and thence, by canal-boat, to Buffalo, where they took the steamer "North America" for Detroit, Michigan. They then went across the country to Marshall. After remaining here for six years, engaged in farming and brick-making, James learned the mason trade with a brother-in-law. In 1843 he arranged with Mr. Harris, a jobber of mason work, to go to Grand Rapids with six other men, to build a stone mill for Messrs. Lawrence and Squire. Being satisfied with the place, he concluded to remain, and purchased a village lot, for which he paid five dollars cash, promising to pay forty-five dollars in mason work. In 1848 Mr. Robinson built the third brick house in Grand Rapids; it stands on the corner of Scribner and Second streets, and is still in his possession. In March, 1850, he started for California with a party of seventeen persons. They made the journey overland, and suffered the usual hardships; paying, at one time, two dollars per pound for flour. Mr. Robinson killed the first buffalo, just after they left Fort Kearney. The party arrived in Sacramento City on the 1st day of August, five months after leaving Grand Rapids. They at once sold their animals and divided the money, purchasing provisions and mining

tools. Mr. Robinson first went to Bidwell's Bar; but, failing to get work, he left for Rich Bar, on the east branch of the north fork of Feather River. He began work, and made from fifteen to twenty-five dollars per day until March, when he was badly disabled by the caving in of an embankment. He started for home in June; stopped at San Francisco, and took passage on a steamer to Panama, and thence to New York; arriving in Michigan after an absence of fifteen months. In 1861 he enlisted in the 1st Regiment of Michigan Engineers and Mechanics. He soon after became Captain of Company C, in which he served four years, reporting for duty every day. He took part in several important conflicts, among which were the siege of Corinth, capture of Bowling Green, and the battles of Mill Springs, Perryville, LaVergne, Mission Ridge, and Lookout Mountain. He was with General Sherman on his famous march to the sea, arriving in Savannah on the 23d of December, 1864. After the close of the war, he engaged in the manufacturing business in Grand Rapids. In 1869 he was burned out, and lost seventeen thousand dollars by the fire. He at once rebuilt his property, and now owns one of the large manufacturing establishments for which the city is noted. Mr. Robinson is one of the original members of the first fire company of Grand Rapids, and served as a volunteer fireman for twenty-two years. He was a member of the Grand Rapids Artillery for five years. In January, 1853, he married Miss Almeria Church, of Marshall, Michigan. They have three daughters. As a business man, Mr. Robinson is in the front rank; as a citizen, he is highly respected for his strict integrity and intelligent counsel.

**R**OOFF, HON. ADAM L., of Lyons, Ionia County, was born at Canajoharie, Montgomery County, New York, February 22, 1810. His grandfather, Johannes Roof, was a Captain under General Herkimer; his uncle, John Roof, was Colonel under the same commander, and fought with courage in the battle of Oriskany, near Fort Stanwix. (See *Stone's History of the Campaign of General Burgoyne and Colonel Barry St. Leger*, pages 166, 196, and 197.) The maternal grandfather of Judge Roof, Philip Van Alstine, was an ardent patriot in the War of the Revolution. His father built Fort Van Renssalaer, on the east bank of Canajoharie Creek, where it may still be seen, having been little injured by the ravages of time. He was a member of the State Legislature in 1798. In 1828 Judge Roof entered Williams College, where he remained two years. He then went to Hamilton College, from which he graduated in 1832. The following year, he was appointed Division Quartermaster, with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, on Major-General Schermerhorn's staff, by Hon.

William L. Marcy, then Governor of the State of New York. He was admitted to the bar of the Supreme Court of the State of New York in August, 1836. In the same month, he left his native residence, in company with his friend, A. F. Bell, to seek his fortune in the West. They reached the city of Monroe, Michigan, and were advised to go to Ionia, where the General Government had established a land office, which was about to be opened for the sale of public lands. On the 28th of August, they arrived at Jackson, then a village of about fifty inhabitants. Here they ascertained, much to their disappointment, that there were no roads leading to the interior,—the land between there and Ionia, a distance of eighty miles, being an unbroken wilderness. They had a boat built, and, on the morning of the 1st of September, launched it at the junction of Portage and Grand rivers, and continued their journey. Three days after, they camped on the west bank of Grand River, on section sixteen, where the city of Lansing now stands. After suffering many perils and hardships, they reached Portland, which then contained, in all, four log houses. Here, after singing the *Te Deum* for their safe deliverance, they rested during the night. The next day, they proceeded to Lyons, a little village of three log houses. This place was so inviting, its surroundings so beautiful, and its future prospects so encouraging, that they concluded to make it their future home. They suffered, however, many privations of pioneer life, being at one time ten weeks without bread. During the fall of 1836, Michigan was made a State. The county of Ionia, at that time, contained about four hundred inhabitants, widely scattered over a large area, and little employment was to be had. Judge Roof and Mr. Bell spent the first two years of their residence in the county in laying out cities, making State roads and public highways, and in private surveys. In 1838 the county of Ionia was organized, and Judge Roof was elected the first Register of Deeds. In October of that year, he married Clarissa, eldest daughter of John Knox. Mr. Knox was a distant relative of Henry Knox, a General in the Revolutionary War, and was a direct descendant of John Knox, the Scotch reformer. In 1840 Mr. Roof was appointed Prosecuting Attorney by Governor Barry. In 1842 he was elected Representative to the State Legislature by a large Democratic majority, although the district, which was composed of the counties of Kent, Ottawa, Ionia, and Clinton, had been for many years represented by the Whigs. As the farmers of the upper counties had no means of shipping their produce, they were desirous to obtain an appropriation of public land sufficient to construct a canal around Grand Rapids, which would enable them to obtain cheap transportation by the river and upper lakes. The people of the southern part of the State were working for the construction and extension of the Michigan Central Railroad; and,

as they wanted all the public lands, vigorously opposed every effort to obtain grants elsewhere in the State. Through the influence of Judge Roof, however, they were defeated, and a large appropriation of land was obtained for the canal and the northern railroad. In 1848 Judge Roof was elected State Senator against the combined opposition of the Free-Soil and Whig parties. The interest in politics ran high that year, and his election was hotly contested. In 1852 he was made Judge of Probate for a term of four years. Entering upon the duties of his office, he found that the records of the court had not been fully kept; that the papers of the office were in a state of confusion, and that the cases were without proper forms, and some without precedents. In a short time, he reduced all to order. He remodeled the old forms and adopted new ones, all of which have since been ratified by his successors. In 1859, having been in poor health for many years, he retired from the practice of law, and gave his attention to farming, which occupation he has since continued. During the late Rebellion, he was a War Democrat. He made many speeches on the war, and inspired the people to such an extent that they contributed their money freely, and no draft was found necessary in the township of Lyons. Judge Roof has always taken pleasure in stating the fact that every requisition of the General Government upon Lyons was promptly filled by volunteers. Judge Roof is slightly under medium size, and is well formed. He has dark eyes, plentiful brown hair, a high forehead, and regular features. His movements are deliberate and dignified. He has a good constitution, and his habits have always been regular. He is, therefore, both in body and mind, a well preserved man. He is a ripe scholar, possessing a classical taste. His language is unusually correct and chaste, and his reasoning logical. He is an excellent conversationalist. Clear in his statements, ready in illustrations, candid, and earnest, he is an eloquent and effective speaker. His counsel always commanded respect among the members of his profession; and, but for his undue modesty, he might have risen to marked distinction. As it was, during the period of his active practice, he stood second to no lawyer in his county. He is the first and oldest lawyer who settled permanently in Ionia County, and is highly esteemed. The following persons, among others, studied law in his office, and from it were admitted to the bar: A. F. Bell, H. Bartow, J. Toan, J. C. Blanchard, and his son, A. K. Roof. As a public officer, Judge Roof was ever at his post, correct, and incorruptible. In business, he has always been industrious and reliable, and now enjoys the results of his labor. He is a firm friend, whose advice and criticism are of rare value. In every public enterprise, he has taken a deep interest; while the causes of education, temperance, morality, and religion have received



from him substantial aid. His opinions are formed after much thought, and adhered to accordingly. His success in life is but the natural outgrowth of integrity, industry, and economy governed by intelligence, and is well worthy of imitation.

**R**OSE, DAVID ELIJAH, Manufacturer, Grand Haven, Michigan, is the son of Elijah and Pamela (Newcomb) Rose, and was born in Penfield, New York, July, 31, 1838. His early education was obtained in the Penfield Academy. He afterwards studied medicine, but, owing to the illness of his father, gave up the practice of his profession, and went to work on a farm in 1855. In the spring of 1861, he removed to Grand Haven, Michigan, and became ticket agent in the office of the Dayton and Michigan Railroad Company. Subsequently, he spent four years as teller in the bank of Terry & Son. December 12, 1869, he entered upon the lumber business, in which he has since been engaged. Mr. Rose was elected Justice of the Peace in April, 1865, and held the office two terms. He was elected Supervisor in 1872, and Alderman in 1875. He became General Manager of the Merchants' Union Express, and established every intermediate station from Grand Rapids to Milwaukee; he also established Fargo's Express from St. Joseph to Manistee. In 1871 he visited Scotland. He is a member of the order of Odd-Fellows, and of the Masonic Fraternity. His political views are Democratic. October 1, 1863, he was married to Martha Jane Saxton, daughter of Hon. J. A. Saxton, of Deerfield, Massachusetts. Mr. Rose is an active member of the First Presbyterian Church, of Grand Haven. In his business relations, he is exact and reliable. He is eminently social in his disposition, and is esteemed by all who know him.

**S**AVIDGE, HON. HUNTER, Lumber Manufacturer and Capitalist, Spring Lake, Michigan, is the son of Benjamin and Esther (Hunter) Savidge, and was born in Columbia County, Pennsylvania, April 6, 1828. His father, a farmer, born in New Jersey, was a pioneer settler in Pennsylvania, and removed to Northumberland County, when his son was nine years of age. The boy, when very young, commenced working at the carpenter's trade, which he followed during the summer, earning ten dollars a month; and acquired his education by attending school in the winter. At the age of seventeen, he became a teacher, and continued this calling for eight years; carrying on the carpenter's trade in the summer months. In the year 1850, at the age of twenty-two, he removed to Rockford, Illinois, and followed

his former occupations until 1853, when he commenced business for himself as a contractor and house-builder,—an enterprise in which he was very successful. In 1856 he moved to Spring Lake, purchased a steam saw-mill, and engaged in the manufacture of lumber. He also bought a large tract of land in the Grand River Valley. In 1861 Mr. Cutler, of Grand Haven, joined him as a partner. The firm met with such success, that, in 1871, they purchased a two-thirds interest in the saw-mill known as the property of Haire & Talford, Spring Lake. The firm of Cutler & Savidge was succeeded by the Cutler & Savidge Lumber Company, with five hundred thousand dollars paid-up capital. Of this company Mr. Savidge is President, and M. J. B. Hancock Secretary. When their mills are in operation, they employ two hundred or more men; and it is, probably, the most extensive lumber concern in the State. They have about three hundred million feet of standing pine. In 1873 Mr. Savidge erected, in Grand Haven, a fine block of buildings, known as the Odd-Fellows' Block, which is a credit to the city. In 1875 Mr. Savidge purchased Spring Lake Hotel, a beautiful summer resort, celebrated for its magnetic springs. He takes great pride in breeding and driving fine horses, some of which he has imported from Kentucky. His sympathies in politics are with the Democratic party. He is a member of the Masonic Fraternity, and has been an Odd-Fellow since 1858. February 12, 1857, he married Sarah C. Patten, of Grand Rapids, Michigan. They have three children. Discreet in his ventures, energetic and prompt in business matters, Mr. Savidge has worked his way through life, and placed himself in the front rank of Michigan's honest and upright men.

**S**ANFORD, ISAAC H., of Grand Haven, was born in Elmira, Chemung County, New York, September 27, 1837. His father, Isaac P. Sanford, is a native of Connecticut, and his mother, of New York State. Isaac H. received a thorough business education. The family removed West, and settled in Akron, Ohio, where he learned the tailor's trade with his father. They afterwards found employment in the establishment of a merchant tailor. In 1856 Mr. I. H. Sanford removed to Grand Haven, Michigan, and followed his former occupation until the spring of 1877. He was elected Alderman of the first City Council in Grand Haven, in 1867. In the same year, he was made the first Chief-Engineer of the Fire Department. In 1877 he was elected Marshal of the city. He is a Chapter member of the Masonic Fraternity, and belongs to the society of Odd-Fellows. He is a member of the Episcopal Church. Mr. Sanford married, in 1874, Miss Mary L. Osgood, of Grand Haven. He is an honest, reliable citizen.

**S**SESSIONS, HON. WILLIAM, Ionia, Michigan, was born in Marcellus, Onondaga County, New York, May 2, 1821. His parents, Nathaniel and Chloe (Thompson) Sessions, early removed to a farm in Harmony, Chautauqua County, New York. Here their son William attended school until he was sixteen years of age. In 1837 he went, with the rest of the family, to Michigan, and settled in that part of the State called North Plains, then an unbroken wilderness. Here he remained and worked until he became of age, when his father gave him eighty acres of the wild land composing his estate. A purchase of one hundred and sixty acres made a farm of two hundred and forty acres, which he cleared, and upon which he lived for thirty-four years. During this time, he taught for several winters in the district school. The township is now thickly settled, and contains two villages,—Matherton, of five hundred inhabitants, and Hubbardston, of seven hundred,—both situated on Fish Creek. In 1871 Mr. William Sessions removed to Ionia. The next year, he was elected to the State Legislature, and was appointed Chairman of the Committee on Public Lands. While living on his place at North Plains, he was Supervisor for ten years; and also held the offices of Township Clerk, Treasurer, and School Inspector. Although he has resided but a few years in Ionia, he has won the highest regard of those who know him. In early life, he was a member of the Church of the United Brethren; but, since his removal to Ionia, he has joined the Presbyterian Church. In 1854 Mr. Sessions married Miss Julia Jennings, a daughter of Mr. John Jennings, of Ronald Township, Ionia County, Michigan. They have had four children, of whom the two youngest are living.

**S**SESSIONS, HON. ALONZO, of Ionia, was born August 4, 1810, in Marcellus, Onondaga County, New York. His grandfather owned and worked a rough, stony farm in Connecticut. He had a family of eleven children, all of whom were obliged to gain their own living. Of these, Amasa Sessions, father of Alonzo, was the oldest child; and, at the age of nineteen, made his way, on foot, into the wilderness of Central New York. He had acquired the rudiments of an education; and, by teaching, and clearing land, obtained means to purchase a farm on the east side of Skaneateles Lake. There he remained until near the time of his death, which occurred in 1838. His wife, Phoebe Smith, was the youngest daughter of Job Smith, an officer in the Revolutionary War. Her brother, Lewis Smith, was Sheriff of Onondaga County, and a member of the New York Legislature. She was remarkable for her modest, quiet disposition, love of her home and family, and untiring industry. She had nine children, all of whom survive her. Alonzo Sessions

was trained in frugal, industrious habits. He made diligent use of his opportunities for an education; and, after leaving school at Skaneateles, taught at Galen, Wayne County, and Owasco, Cayuga County. In 1831 he went to Bennington, where he was engaged two years as clerk in a store. As compensation, he received his board and ten dollars per month, from which he saved, the first year, one hundred dollars. His employer was an able, intelligent business man, who owned an establishment consisting of a store, an ashery, a distillery, a grain-mill, and a saw-mill. In this position, he daily learned the value of all kinds of commodities, and acquired prompt and accurate methods of doing business. He had constant opportunities to deal with men and women, to study human nature in all its phases, and to weigh the motives which govern human actions. Meanwhile, his leisure was devoted to reading and study. In 1833 Mr. Sessions left his native State, and traveled, most of the way on foot, from Detroit to the Land Office at White Pigeon, Michigan. His route was by way of Mt. Clemens, Romeo, and Pontiac to Farmington. At the latter place, he struck the Grand River trail, which crossed the Huron near where Kensington now is, and followed it through the counties of Shiawassee, Clinton, and Ionia, to the site of the present city of Ionia. There he found five families, part of them living in unfinished log-cabins, and the others in Indian wigwams. From Farmington to Ionia, his brother and another young man accompanied him. Their food was bread and raw pork; their bed, the ground in the open air,—excepting one frosty night, when they slept in a deserted wigwam which they found on the place now occupied by Dewitt. In Shiawassee, their trail divided, and, after some hesitation, they took what proved to be the wrong one; for, after crossing a small river, it entered a dense forest and ended abruptly in an extensive Indian sugar-bush. After retracing their steps, they ventured doubtfully forward and reached Ionia. Here they boarded a Frenchman's *batteau* and floated down Grand River to Grand Rapids, stopping over night with Rix Robinson, an Indian trader, at the mouth of the Thornapple River. They traveled on foot from Grand Rapids, *via* Gull Prairie, Kalamazoo, and Three Rivers, to White Pigeon, and camped one night on Bull's Prairie, near the Thornapple River. They purchased their land, and returned to Detroit by the Chicago road. Mr. Sessions spent the ensuing winter in a store in Tuscarawas County, Ohio. He afterwards taught at Dayton until 1835, when he purchased two horses and started north for Ionia. One day's travel brought him to a densely timbered wilderness, which he traversed by the aid of blazed trees, until he reached Fort Defiance, on the Maumee River. It rained all the time; the rivers, creeks, and bayous were swollen to overflowing, and





Thomas Sussous  
Bonica  
Mich.





could be crossed only by swimming the horses. In this primitive way, he crossed the Auglaize three times, and the Maumee once. From Fort Defiance, he traveled down the Maumee, swimming the creeks and bayous, until he was opposite Perrysburg, Ohio. There he found an open road free from mud, which led through an unoccupied region to Michigan. He passed Ann Arbor, Jackson, and Marshall, which were then scarcely worthy the name of villages. At Saline, he was joined by his brother, and they proceeded to Ionia. The way, from Bellevue on, lay through a dense forest and across two rivers. The journey from Dayton to Ionia occupied sixteen days. Mr. Sessions swam his horses through all the streams, crossed numerous swamps and marshes, and once left his horses in the middle of a stream to recover some article which had dropped from the pack-horn and floated away. Yet, under all these difficulties, he and his brother, with their horses, reached their destination in safety. Mr. Sessions immediately made himself a home on his land in the wilderness. He built the second log-cabin in Berlin, Ionia County, and the first bridges across the small streams between Ionia and Saranac. He married, in August, 1837, Celia, second daughter of Judge Dexter, the pioneer of Ionia County. They have had thirteen children, seven of whom are living. Mr. Sessions was the first Supervisor of Cass (now Berlin), and Chairman of the first Board of Supervisors that met in Ionia County. He was one of the first Justices of the Peace, and held the position several years. He was Sheriff of Ionia County in 1841 and 1842; has since been Supervisor eighteen times, and often Chairman of the Board. His farm, in resources of soil, timber, water, stone, etc., was one of the best in the State; but it was also one of the most difficult to bring under control and cultivation. The amount of labor required was unusual; the results were remote and uncertain; but the work was carried steadily forward with courage and confidence, Mr. Sessions directing all, and performing much of it with his own hands. He has been able to make the farm support his family, pay all expenses of improvement, and provide something for future use. It has become a good home and a valuable inheritance. Land has been added until it has increased from three hundred and sixty to eight hundred acres. Mr. Sessions was elected to the State Legislature in 1856, 1858, and 1860. During his last term of service, he was appointed, by President Lincoln, Assessor of Internal Revenue for the Fourth District of Michigan. He faithfully discharged the duties of the office during four years, when, on his disapproval of President Johnson's policy, he was removed. Mr. Sessions never did more severe, unpleasant, nor honest work, than while in the discharge of his duties as Assessor. In order to aid the Government to raise funds during the Rebellion, Mr. Sessions and others organized a National Bank at Ionia,

of which he has been a Director since 1863, and President since 1866. He has been President of the Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company since 1870. Both institutions have increased in strength and prosperity under his administration. In 1872 he was chosen, by the Republicans of Michigan, one of the Presidential Electors; and, by them, President of the Electoral College. In 1876, without any effort on his part, he was made Lieutenant-Governor, by a majority of sixteen thousand, notwithstanding the fact that his opponent, a Democrat, received the Greenback vote. He has never solicited official positions. His ambition has been to discharge faithfully all his duties, and to encourage others to do likewise. He has especially desired to educate his children to be valuable citizens, an honor to himself and the country. Few living men have had more hardships to encounter, greater difficulties to overcome, and less encouragement in their struggle with adverse circumstances; but temptation and trouble have not been able to move him from the path of duty, nor to shake his resolution to act well his part.

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**SHAW, JOHN L.**, Civil Engineer, Grand Rapids, Michigan, is a son of Nathan and Lucy M. (Rees) Shaw. He was born June 25, 1822, in West Stockbridge, Massachusetts, and is a descendant of the Plymouth colonists, and the original Dutch settlers of Albany, New York. His father was the Congregational minister at Stockbridge, and Mr. Shaw's boyhood was passed in the quiet of a New England parsonage. He passed twenty years in the enjoyment of simple home life; was educated at Williams Academy, in Stockbridge; and, in 1852, took a situation on the Civil Engineer Corps of the Hudson River Railroad; and, the following year, on the Chicago, Alton and St. Louis Railroad, in Illinois. During 1854 he had charge of the works on the Joliet cut-off. From 1855 to 1860, he was engaged on the Toledo, Peoria and Warsaw Railroad; the next three years he spent in New York with Fairbanks & Co., scale manufacturers. In 1863 he took charge of the Civil Engineer Department, between Fort Wayne and Chicago, on the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad. Two years later, he was engaged at New Brighton, Pennsylvania, on the Lawrence Railroad. In 1867 he removed to Grand Rapids, Michigan, and took charge of the construction of the Grand Rapids and Indiana Railroad. Subsequently he was made General Superintendent of the road, and remained in connection with it until 1871. In that year, as one of the firm of E. B. Talcott & Co., he took a contract for finishing the road from Paris to Petoskey. In 1874 he was appointed on the Executive Committee of the Board of Public Works, of Grand Rapids, which position he now holds.

He has also been connected with a line of transfer wagons since 1867. Mr. Shaw is a Republican. His religious views are liberal; he endeavors to follow the golden rule, and is widely respected for his careful and honorable business transactions. Mr. Shaw, as a boy, was more deeply interested in a piece of machinery than in any juvenile amusement. In the choice of his profession, he followed the dictates of his natural taste, and has profited by the decision. His fortune has been accumulated by his own skill and energy. He married, October 11, 1865, Louisa M. Bradley, daughter of Joseph I. Bradley, one of the first settlers of Syracuse. They have one daughter.

**S**HEPARD, CHARLES, M. D., Grand Rapids, was born in 1812, in Herkimer County, New York, to which place his parents had emigrated from Portland, Connecticut. He received his academic education in his native town; and, in the spring of 1835, graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, of Western New York. He removed to Grand Rapids, Michigan, in the fall of 1835, and entered upon the practice of medicine; to the various departments of which he devoted himself with such earnestness that he speedily rose to the head of his profession. In 1837, a vessel having been wrecked off Muskegon, and some of the crew badly frozen, Dr. Shepard performed amputations with such skill as to bring him into general notice. During the winters of 1843, 1860, and 1872, he spent considerable time in visiting the medical and surgical colleges and city hospitals in New York City, allowing no improvements in medicine or surgery to escape his notice. Devoting much time in his early professional career to surgery and general practice, he has, for many years past, made a specialty of obstetrics and the diseases of women. In this department he has acquired such skill as to increase his fame,—patients being brought to him not only from different portions of Michigan, but also from other States. Dr. Shepard has been a member of the Grand Rapids Medical and Surgical Society since its organization. He has been a member of the Masonic Fraternity for fifteen years. He voted with the Democratic party until the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, since which time he has been a Republican. In 1855 he was elected Mayor of the city of Grand Rapids. In 1850 he united with the Swedenborgian Church, becoming one of the Trustees. He married, in 1836, Lucinda Putnam, of Herkimer County, New York. She was a Christian lady of thorough culture, and very active in all philanthropic enterprises. Her death occurred in 1872. Dr. Shepard married, in 1876, Dora N. Sage, daughter of Edward Sage, of Portland, Connecticut.

**S**INCLAIR, HON. ROBERT P., of Grand Rapids, was born in Romulus, Seneca County, New York, October 17, 1814. He is the son of John and Catherine (Allen) Sinclair, both natives of Ireland. His mother was the daughter of Charles Allen, of County Donegal, and his father, a son of the Rev. James Sinclair, a preacher in Glastry, County Down, for fifty-two years. They were married at Carrick-beach, Ireland, by the Rev. William Moore, of Moneymore, in 1807, and emigrated to America in 1811. After landing at New York, they proceeded to Seneca County, and settled on the shore of Cayuga Lake, at the place now known as Sinclair's Landing. There Mr. Sinclair purchased a farm of six hundred acres; and, in a few years, became a wealthy grain dealer. Robert P. Sinclair received a common-school education, and then studied at Ovid Academy, and at Homer, New York, where he prepared for college. At Romulusville, July 4, 1835, he delivered the oration of the day, and received the hearty applause of the entire assembly. After a year spent in college at Geneva, New York, he went to the University of Edinburg, Scotland. He visited, during his vacations, his relatives in Ireland, and traveled through England and France. He graduated in 1839, made a farewell visit to Ireland, and, in the fall of the same year, returned to the United States. Shortly afterwards, he began reading law at Ann Arbor, Michigan, in the office of Kingsley & Morgan, and was admitted to the bar in 1843. Ill health, however, prevented his engaging in the practice of his profession. In 1846 he erected a flour-mill in Washtenaw County, Michigan, which he managed successfully until 1848. He then sold out, moved to Grand Rapids, and, the following year, began the practice of law. At the breaking out of the Rebellion, a delegation of Irish citizens waited upon him, and expressed their desire that he should lead them in the war to defend the Union. Mr. Sinclair consented, and obtained authority to raise an independent regiment of infantry. This was called the "Irish Volunteers," with the motto, "It is better to fight for the FIRST than the LAST sod of our country." They were mustered into service in January, as the 14th Regiment of Michigan Infantry, commanded by Colonel R. P. Sinclair; and, two months later, were ordered to the front. They were sent first to St. Louis, Missouri, then to General Halleck at Pittsburg Landing; and, afterwards, to General Pope at Hamburg Landing. The regiment was engaged in the battles of Farmington, and Corinth, and at Big Springs; whence they made a forced march to Tuscumbia, Alabama. This march was made in July, 1862, under a burning sun, which tested, to the utmost, the endurance of the men. Many dropped by the wayside. The first day's march demonstrated to Colonel Sinclair the necessity of relieving his soldiers of their burdens; and, to this end, he applied to General Morgan





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Robert T. P. Sinclair





for an order to burn or store their knapsacks, but was refused; General Morgan saying he would take no responsibility in the premises. The Colonel then hired a team and wagon, and, at his own risk, took the knapsacks of his regiment to Burnsville, where he stored them in a room at the hotel. This put his men in light marching order. On their arrival at Tuscumbia, they stacked four hundred and fifty-six guns; while no other regiment stacked more than one hundred. Colonel Sinclair sent one officer and one man back to Burnsville, and, in a few days, had all the goods of the regiment safe within the lines. In 1862, while stationed at Tuscumbia, the Colonel made a speech to his regiment, reviewing the situation of the country; and stating, among other things, that slavery was the only and legitimate cause of the war, which would never end until that curse was abolished from the land. This was bold talk then, as President Lincoln had not yet issued his Emancipation Proclamation. After leaving Tuscumbia, the 14th Michigan defended Jackson Crossing until the entire army moved across the Tennessee River, on the retreat to Nashville. On arriving at Athens, Alabama, General John M. Palmer, of Illinois, joined them and took command. A courier, sent from Nashville to Tuscumbia with dispatches, was captured by the enemy. Being left without means of communication, they retreated to Nashville, which they reached in five days, and where they remained during the siege. It was on this march from Athens to Nashville, that Colonel Sinclair barely escaped being shot in an encounter with the rebel cavalry, under General Roddy, while endeavoring to save one of his wagons which had broken down. Soon after, General Rosecrans took command of the army; and, under him, the regiment was engaged in the battles of Laveline and Stone River, besides several others of less importance. In the spring of 1863, his health being greatly impaired, Colonel Sinclair resigned his commission, and returned to Grand Rapids, where he slowly recovered his health. In 1866 he became Revenue Collector for the Fourth District of Michigan, which position he held only till the spring of 1867, because the Senate refused to confirm President Johnson's appointment. He has, since then, reaped a rich harvest in real estate and law business. In 1852 he was elected Judge of Probate, and served in that capacity four years. His administration was signally successful, as was attested by his renomination, on two subsequent occasions, for the same office. Being a Democrat, he failed to be elected, in consequence of the Republican party's coming into power during the war excitement. He married, at Grand Rapids, September 17, 1850, Miss Julia H. Allen, a daughter of Benjamin H. Allen, formerly of Amherst, Massachusetts. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Dr. Cumming, then rector of St. Mark's Church. Colonel Sinclair has erected several buildings and deals largely in real estate. He has

enjoyed rare opportunities for culture and observation, both at home and abroad. His varied abilities have been generously used, in his country's service, in camp, on the battle-field, and in the quiet routine of professional and mercantile life. As an officer, he was always quick to see the necessities of his troops, and ready to devise means to provide for them. His endeavors to improve the city in which he lives have made him one of its most valued citizens.

MITH, LE MOYNE S., REV., of Grand Haven, was born in Hector, Schuyler County, New York, February 8, 1808. His grandfather, Hon. Grover Smith, was a native of Connecticut, and removed to Hector in 1794, where, for several years, he held the office of County Judge. He died about the year 1837. The second son, William, father of Mr. Le Moyne S. Smith, was born in Litchfield, Connecticut, in 1775. He was a man of vigorous powers, both of mind and body; very decided in his convictions, and firm in the maintenance of his opinions. When about eighteen years of age, led by a trifling incident, he resolved never to drink distilled liquor. He kept his resolution, and, twenty years afterwards, was a leader in the organization of the Hector Temperance Society, which is now the oldest existing temperance society in the world. In 1804 he married Mary Warner. They brought up a family of twelve children, of whom four sons entered the ministry. Le Moyne S. Smith was the second son and third child. His health was precarious, and he remained at home until his seventeenth year, attending school in winter, and working upon the farm, as he was able, in summer. He became very fond of reading, and eagerly perused the newspapers, and many of the books in his father's library, especially works of travel. He also read the poems of Milton, Young, and Cowper. The biography of Benjamin Franklin made him desirous of learning the printing business, and, in 1825, he entered the office of the *Geneva Gazette*. Here he found means for mental culture in the bookstore and circulating library connected with the office. Extreme diffidence prevented his engaging in social gayeties, while his early education and surrounding circumstances combined to keep him from evil associations. Two years of close attention to business so injured his health that he was compelled to find other employment. He taught school for some time, after which he commenced the study of medicine under Dr. Enos Barnes, of Yates County. For several years he was engaged in various efforts to promote the cause of temperance. In 1831, in a powerful revival of religion in the village of Eddytown, he was converted, and felt himself called to the work of the Christian ministry. He at once commenced the needful studies. In

Yates County Academy, and Geneva Lyceum, he prepared for an advanced standing in college. He then went to Lane Seminary; but his health failed, and he was obliged to suspend study entirely. He went to Michigan in 1837, and devoted the summer to out-door employment. He afterwards taught, for some time, in an academy in Marshall. Meanwhile, in February, 1838, he was licensed to preach by the Presbytery of Marshall, and was ordained the November following. He was able to continue in the active work of the ministry only eight years. Under his labors several revivals occurred. In Grass Lake, Jackson County, the Presbyterian Church doubled its numbers in a year and a half,—between seventy and eighty having joined the several churches upon profession of their faith. The last five years of his work, from 1842 to 1847, were spent in laying the foundations of the churches in Ionia, Portland, Lyons, and Otisco. His labors in preaching, and pastoral visiting over so large a field, developed a pulmonary disease, which, in the spring of 1847, brought him, apparently, to the borders of the grave. At length, however, he recovered his general health, though the condition of his lungs unfitted him for much public speaking. In 1848 he removed, with his family, to Spring Lake, Ottawa County, where he engaged in mercantile business. Here he established a Sabbath School, of which he was Superintendent for nearly twelve years. Mr. Smith was educated a Whig, but early in life became an Abolitionist, and afterwards joined the Republican party. In 1862 he removed to Grand Haven, and established the *Grand Haven Union*, a Republican weekly newspaper, of which for nearly ten years he was editor and publisher. From 1863 to 1871 he held the office of Assistant Assessor, under the Internal Revenue law. In the autumn of 1864 he was appointed, by Governor Blair, one of the Election Commissioners to secure the votes of the army in the South. Mr. Smith was married, in November, 1838, in Ottawa County, to Miss B. Ann Hopkins, who died in February, 1858. They had two daughters. He was married again, in November, 1859, at Lyons, Iowa, to Miss Phoebe S. Parmelee, late of Lima, New York. In the spring of 1877 he was appointed Postmaster at Grand Haven, by President Hayes. This position he filled with credit to himself and general satisfaction to the public.

**S**LAYTON, NATHANIEL VOLNEY, of Grand Haven, was the son of Samuel Stowe and Millison Carver (Randall) Slayton. He was born in Stowe, Lamoille County, Vermont, September 15, 1838. Having a desire for knowledge, and being studious and attentive, he obtained a good education in the common schools of his native village. During the summer of 1858 he assisted his father, who was extensively engaged in farming and horticulture for about fifteen years. He

visited the West in 1859, and, being favorably impressed, arranged his affairs at home, and returned to Michigan. January 28, 1862, he entered the store of Hon. Dwight Cutler, of Grand Haven, as clerk. By honesty, industry, and energy he accumulated means to begin business for himself, in the firm of Sheldon & Slayton. This soon became one of the prominent dry-goods firms of Michigan, making sales to the amount of from sixty-five to ninety-five thousand dollars annually. After seven years, being in very poor health, he settled his business and took a holiday. September 17, 1873, having somewhat recovered, he resumed active life and opened a large and successful grocery establishment. Mr. Slayton never aspired to public honors; but, in 1876, at the earnest request of his friends, he consented to run against C. J. Pfaff and Gerritt Bottje, for City Treasurer, and was elected by a flattering Republican majority. December 17, 1874, he married Martha Florence Shippey. They have one daughter. Mr. Slayton's religious views are liberal and rational. He is a member of the Masonic Fraternity, and is a Knight Templar. He endeavors to live according to the exemplary maxims of that body,—giving to the needy, caring for the orphan, and recognizing the brotherhood of man. He is genial and charitable, and is highly esteemed by his fellow-citizens.

**S**MITH, IRA O., President of the Muskegon Booming Company, Muskegon, Michigan, was born at Victor, Monroe County, New York, January 28, 1827. His father, Oren Smith, was one of the founders of the city of Rochester, New York, and an extensive land-holder there, when it was but an insignificant village. He was also an eager promoter of the construction of the Erie Canal. Ira O. Smith received such education as the district schools afforded. When eleven years of age, he removed, with his parents, to Flint, Michigan, where he engaged in work on his father's farm, until he was twenty years old. He then went to Grand Haven; and, engaging with William M. Ferry in the lumber business, remained five years. Having accumulated some property during this period, he removed to Black Lake, in 1852, and purchased an interest in the saw-mill known as the Black Lake Mill. The place being then a wilderness, he was compelled, although laboring under many disadvantages, to build public roads, and make other improvements necessary to facilitate the shipment of lumber. Notwithstanding these drawbacks, he carried on this business, with considerable success, for ten years. In 1862 Mr. Smith sold out his business at Black Lake, and removed to Muskegon, where he engaged in mercantile pursuits, and continued in the same for five years. In 1867 he became junior partner in the firm of Swan, White & Smith. He afterwards became managing partner of the firm,







*M. J. Smiley*



which, by the aid of his ability, has been very successful. Having also become a stockholder in the Muskegon Booming Company, he was elected its Secretary in 1872, and President in 1874. He still holds the latter office, giving general satisfaction to the company. So well has the business prospered under his management, that it pays the stockholders the handsome annual profit of twenty per cent. Since his residence in Muskegon County, Mr. Smith has been successively elected to the offices of County Clerk and Register, Supervisor and Alderman,—all of which he has filled with credit to himself, and satisfaction to those who supported him. He is a prominent member of the Masonic Fraternity, and also of the order of Odd-Fellows. As a public-spirited citizen, he has largely identified himself with the growth and prosperity of the city of Muskegon. In November, 1854, Mr. Smith married Miss Kate A. Boyse, of Grand Rapids, Michigan. They have one daughter, Minnie L., who was born in June, 1858.

**S**MITH, HON. GEORGE MORTIMER, of Whitehall, Michigan, was born March 16, 1841, at Springfield, Otsego County, New York, and is the son of William B. and Charlotte R. Smith, of Coopers-town, New York. He received his education at the common schools, and at Alfred University, Alleghany County, New York. He learned telegraphing, and was first employed as telegraph operator on the Atlantic and Great Western Railroad, at Salamanca, New York, and was promoted to be First Superintendent of telegraph and train dispatches on the same road. He subsequently occupied a similar position, for several years, on the Blossburg, Corning and Tioga Railroad. In 1867 he entered, as book-keeper, the employment of the Hornellsville Lumber Company, at Whitehall, Michigan. A few years later, he purchased an interest in the company; and, directly after, became a member of the new firm, which bought out the old partnership of J. Alley & Co. He has taken a deep interest in the advancement of Whitehall, and has served one term as its President. In the fall of 1876, he was Representative in the Michigan Legislature, and acted as Chairman of the Committee on State-prisons, and as member of the Committee on Railroads. He belongs to the societies of Odd-Fellows and Masons, and is a member of Painted Post Lodge, at Corning; of the De Molai Commandery, at Hornellsville; and of the Corning Consistory of Scottish Rites. He is a conservative Republican. In 1856 he married Rhoda F. Alley, daughter of the Hon. James Alley, of Hornellsville, New York, who, for many years, has been prominently identified with Republican party in Western New York. Mr. Smith has a keen appreciation of wit and humor, and an inexhaustible fund of amusing incidents, which he is ever ready to relate.

**S**MILEY, MITCHELL J., Grand Rapids, is a native of South Avon, Livingston County, New York, and was born on the 2d of May, 1841. His father, Mitchell S. Smiley, originally from Maryland, removed to Van Buren County, Michigan, in 1851, and settled on a farm. Here the son spent his life up to the year 1858, doing farm work in the summer, and attending school during the winter months. He then entered the Kalamazoo College, teaching school a portion of each year. In 1860 he began the study of law with Balch & De Yoe, then the leading law firm in Kalamazoo, and continued to teach during the winters, as before. He was admitted to the bar May 24, 1862, and the following year commenced the practice of his profession. In a few months he formed a partnership with his tutor, Nathaniel A. Balch; soon after, Walter O. Balch, a son of his partner, was admitted to the firm, which did a prosperous business under the name of Balch, Smiley & Balch. Mr. Smiley gave early evidence of much legal talent. In 1872, it became necessary to take an additional member into the firm of Hughes & O'Brien, of Grand Rapids,—a firm possessed of great ability and doing an extensive business. This position, without solicitation, was offered to Mr. Smiley; he accepted it, and the firm of Hughes, O'Brien & Smiley was formed. Since that time, no lawyer in the State has tried more causes or been more successful than he. His great strength is in the careful preparation, and plain, straightforward presentation of his cases. In politics, Mr. Smiley has always been a Democrat; he was twice a candidate for Representative, in the Kalamazoo District, but in each instance suffered a party defeat. He married, in August, 1874, Florence M., daughter of Andrew J. Fitts, of Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Mr. Smiley is a man of sound judgment and good habits; he has been successful in business, and is an esteemed citizen.

**S**MITH, HON. ROBERT BRUCE, of Portland, Lonia County, was born April 21, 1834, at Fairfield, Herkimer County, New York. He was the son of Richard R. and Elizabeth (Snell) Smith, and grandson of Jacob Marshall, who was a member of Congress during the War of 1812. His mother was of German descent. Mr. Smith received his early education at Fairfield, his native town, and graduated from the medical department of the University of New York in 1854. He practiced medicine at Fairfield until 1858, when he received a position as surgeon on a vessel, visited England, and returned to New York. In 1863 he bought the "Ne Plus Ultra" flour-mill at Portland, and has since been extensively engaged in the manufacture and sale of flour in that place. He is also connected with the firm of Robert Smith & Co., manufacturers of school and church furniture. In 1867 he was elected to the

Lower House of the State Legislature, and was re-elected in 1869. While filling this position, he was Chairman of the Committee on Railroads, and a member of the Committee on Ways and Means. In 1869 he was elected President of the village of Portland. He has been a Trustee of the School Board three times, and has taken an active part in educational interests. In all railroad enterprises for the benefit of the town, he has evinced a deep interest. He was a member of the Executive Committee, and one of the first Directors of the Detroit, Lansing and Lake Michigan Railroad. He is a member of the Mutual Benefit Association, and of the Ionia and Montcalm Life Insurance Company. In 1860 he became a member of the Society of Free and Accepted Masons, and has held many important offices in the various lodges. He is a Republican, and cast his first vote for John C. Fremont. He is connected with the Congregational Church of Portland, and holds the position of trustee. He was married, September 12, 1860, to Emily E. Read. They have three children. Mr. Smith's physique is fine, and his presence distinguished. By his integrity and acknowledged ability, he commands the respect of his fellow-citizens.

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**S**MITH, J. MORGAN, Congregational Minister, of Grand Rapids, was born April 26, 1833, in Great Falls, New Hampshire. His father, Rev. James A. Smith, was born in 1806, and was one of the fifteen children of Norman Smith, a man of piety and repute in Hartford County, Connecticut. He was pastor of the church in Glastonbury, of that State, for twenty years, and is still a preacher highly esteemed for his good judgment and sincerity. His mother, Mary (Morgan) Smith, was the daughter of Joseph Morgan, of Hartford, Connecticut, whose ancestry, in New England, dates back to 1635, and who was one of the founders of the Aetna Insurance Company, of Hartford. Mr. Smith, as a boy, was forward in his studies; he was always ready for work and play. He read a great deal; and, having exhausted the town library, his father borrowed books from the city, five miles distant. He was especially fond of fiction and history. At twelve years of age, he went to the old Hopkins Grammar School, in Hartford, where he spent five years preparing for Yale College. He entered the Freshman Class in 1850, and was an eager, but not an ambitious, student. He had very good teachers; and was fortunate in becoming well acquainted with Thomas K. Beecher, of Elmira, New York, who was then Principal of the High School in Hartford. He spent much time in the study of poetry, which has left a visible impress on his sentiments. He graduated in 1854, among the first ten in his class. Upon leaving college, he went to Elmira,

New York, where, for six months, he taught private classes in the higher branches of learning. Feeling the need of physical exercise, he then spent a half year in work and travel in Central Wisconsin. At the end of that time, urged by a strong desire to become a minister, he went to Andover, Massachusetts, to study theology. He was averse to the theological spirit which prevailed; and, for four years, earnestly and untiringly sought a better way. During an interval in his study, he went to Philadelphia, where he spent a year in preparing boys for college, thereby earning money to pursue his own studies. Immediately after leaving Andover, he took charge of a small church in West Avon, Hartford County, Connecticut, where he remained three years. He then spent a year in reading, irregular preaching, and visiting the army with supplies for the sick. Upon an invitation from the New England Church in Chicago, he went there to supply its pulpit for seven weeks; after which, among several calls, he chose that from the First Congregational Church in Grand Rapids, where he has since remained. During his ministry of nearly fourteen years, the membership of the church has been doubled; a new edifice erected, which will hold a thousand persons; and two smaller churches have been built. In August, 1859, he was married to Miss Cordelia B. Root, of Middletown, Connecticut. They have five children. Mr. Smith has worked in accordance with his conviction that a church should labor as well as pray; give, as well as receive; that the minister is not a man of authority, but a brother among his congregation; and that a regular minister accomplishes more than a chance one. He has sought to preach the truth, reasonably and lovingly, and his work has grown around him.

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**S**MITH, GENERAL ISRAEL C., Grand Rapids, was born in that city March 12, 1839. He is the son of Canton Smith, who emigrated from Rhode Island to Grand Rapids, in 1838, where he still resides. He received his education in the common schools of his native place, and in Albion College. After leaving college, he entered the employment of James Blair; and afterwards, as a student, the law office of James Miller, where he remained three years. In 1858 General Smith made a tour of the Southern and Western States; and, the following year, crossed the plains to Pike's Peak, Utah, and California. After a short sojourn, he returned *via* Panama. In 1860 he was clerk on a steamboat on the Mississippi River. In 1861 he enlisted, as a private, in the old 3d Michigan Infantry; but, before they left Grand Rapids, he received the commission of Second Lieutenant. From that time to the end of the war, he rose rapidly through all the grades, up to Colonel of





R. B. Smith

Eng'd by H. S. Hildesheim & Barclay & C<sup>o</sup> N.Y.





Cavalry and Brigadier-General. In official reports, he was often mentioned favorably for his bravery and efficiency. He served, as Assistant Inspector-General, on the staff of Generals Haymen and De Trobriand, Army of the Potomac; and also on that of Generals Tillson, Ammon, Gillem, and Stoneman, in the West. He took part in forty-three battles, one siege, and a number of skirmishes. He was promoted on his first battle-field, at Bull Run. In 1862 he accepted a Captaincy in his own regiment, in preference to the position of Aid-de-camp on General Richardson's staff. His name was especially mentioned for bravery in the battle of Fair Oaks, by General Phil. Kearney. General Smith took an active part in all of the battles of the Army of the Potomac, from first Bull Run to Gettysburg inclusive, except Antietam, when he was in a hospital, wounded. In the battle of Groveton, or second Bull Run, several companies having become detached from their regiment, General Smith took his place at their head, and led them to the charge; driving the enemy from their position, and receiving two wounds in his shoulder. Having recovered from his wounds, he served in the battle of Fredericksburg as Aid-de-camp to General Berry. He was appointed by General Heintzelman Assistant Inspector-General of Brigade, and assigned to the Third Brigade, Second Division, Third Army Corps, on General Haymen's staff. He was in the thickest of the fight in the battle of Chancellorsville, and commanded the right wing in the night charge when Stonewall Jackson was killed. At sunrise, the Federal troops were charged by the enemy and thrown into some confusion. While General Smith was riding at full speed to rally a regiment on the right of General Haymen, his horse was struck by a twelve-pound shot on the top of the neck just in front of the shoulder; but the General instantly procured another, and accomplished his purpose. On the same day, at the head of a band of volunteers, he charged and recaptured a battery which the rebels had taken from the Union troops. In the battle of Gettysburg, he served on the staff of General De Trobriand; and, in attempting to re-form a disordered regiment, he was wounded in the leg by a ball, and his horse was shot under him. He was carried off the field, and left, with General Byron R. Pierce, in an old wooden building, where they remained without care until the second day after the battle. Upon his recovery, he was appointed Major of the 10th Michigan Cavalry, and ordered to the Army of the Ohio. In 1864 he dismounted his force and charged the enemy's works at Watauga Bridge, Tennessee. General Smith was the first to enter the fort. He soon after led an attack on General John Morgan's troops, posted in superior numbers at Morristown; broke their center, and drove them from their position. In May, 1864, as Acting Assistant Inspector-General, he was assigned to the staff of General Davis Tillson;

and, in August, was transferred to that of General Alvan C. Gillem. Knoxville being threatened by a cavalry force of five thousand men, commanded by General Wheeler, General Smith was called, by telegram, to its defense. At the head of a body of cavalry, seventy-five in number, he started out to watch the movements of General Wheeler. In passing through a piece of woods, he received a volley from the enemy at short range; but, charging on the instant, he routed the regiment of Texas Rangers four hundred strong, and chased them right into the center of Wheeler's camp, two miles away. Finding that he was completely surrounded, he charged through the rebel lines. It was now a race for life to get out. They fought their way desperately for five miles,—a part of the distance Union and rebel troops being mixed together; using saber and revolver indiscriminately. General Smith escaped with thirteen men. In November, 1864, in order to reinforce General A. C. Gillem, who was hard pressed by General Breckinridge, General Smith took, on a train of cars, three hundred men and one piece of artillery. After going to Morristown, about forty miles distant, they met General Gillem's united forces, but could not prevent their retreat. He posted his men behind fences and an embankment, and, by firing at short range, drove the rebels back twice. The engineer became frightened at the first discharge, and drew off the train. As the enemy were again advancing, with a force of over three thousand men, General Smith ordered a retreat. After eighteen hours' hard travel through the woods, he succeeded in uniting his command with the Union forces at Strawberry Plains. During the winter of 1864, he was on General Stoneman's staff; and, when not engaged in the duties of his position, was out with a cavalry force, trying to strike the enemy at every available point. At Salisbury, North Carolina, he charged a rebel battery at two different times, having his horse and most of his men killed at the first attack. He procured fresh troops, captured the battery, and drove the enemy through the town. The rebel force was entirely destroyed, as those who were not killed were taken prisoners. In the spring of 1865, at his own request, he was released from staff duty and ordered to the command of his regiment. On the 22d of November, 1865, with his regiment, he was mustered out of service. He married Miss Ada E. Meeker, October 9, 1867. The reputation held by General Smith among his brother officers may be shown by the following extract from a letter written by General Davis Tillson to General Thomas, Adjutant-General of the Armies of the United States:

"Lieutenant-Colonel Smith has served under my command, or immediate observation, for the past eighteen months. His conspicuous courage, capacity, and gallantry have made him an object of admiration to the whole command. He wears the scars of several wounds received in battles where he exhibited the most dis-

tinguished bravery and ability. I know of no officer in the entire army who possesses a more brilliant and deserving record."

Since leaving the army, General Smith has spent several years in Missouri, Kansas, Colorado, and New Mexico, engaged in mining and raising stock. In 1873 General Smith returned to Grand Rapids; and, in company with George B. Morton, erected the Morton House; a one-half interest in which he still retains. Having turned his attention to railroads, he is now connected with the Grand Rapids and Indiana road. He controls the Fire Department; is one of the Police Commissioners, and commands the 2d Regiment of Michigan State Troops.

**STANTON, ERASTUS H.**, of Ionia, Michigan, was born at Durham, Greene County, New York, November 13, 1816. His father, James R. Stanton, was a son of Reuben Stanton, a Baptist minister, whose parents removed from Stonington, Connecticut, to Westerloo, Albany County, New York, in the year 1790. The family is of Welsh descent. His mother, Martha (Niles) Stanton, was a daughter of Henry Niles, a descendant from a Scotch family belonging to the sect of Quakers, or Friends. They were persecuted for their opinions under the reign of Charles II., and fled to a new continent, that they might enjoy that freedom of opinion denied at home. They suffered this indignity because, like all Friends, they professed to be conscientiously opposed to the payment of tithes; to doing military duty; to taking oaths in courts of justice, and taking off the hat as an act of homage to man. The Niles family settled in Rhode Island in 1672. Mr. Stanton's grandfather and grandmother were married in 1780, and removed first to Dutchess County, and, soon after the close of the Revolutionary War, to Albany County, New York. His parents were married in 1813, and removed to Durham, Greene County, New York, where his father followed the business of tanner, shoemaker, and farmer. Mr. Erastus Stanton was educated in the common schools and academy of his native town. An early developed taste for reading was gratified by access to a circulating library, in which his father owned an interest for forty years. At the age of sixteen, he was placed, at his own request, with a mercantile firm in Rensselaerville, Albany County, where he was initiated into the details of business life; his first lessons were in sawing wood, sweeping the store, measuring ashes, and weighing sugar. He remained with this firm until the year 1837, acquainting himself with all details, and then commenced business for himself at Greenville, Greene County, New York, where he remained twelve years. At the end of that time, he removed to Angelica, Alleghany County. It was generally supposed that the Erie Railroad was to

pass through the place, thus promising to make it an important town. But these anticipations were not realized. His wife's health failing, Mr. Stanton removed to the town of Rockton, Winnebago County, Illinois, about one mile from Beloit, Wisconsin, where he bought a small farm, and built himself a home, expecting to end his days there. The financial storm of 1857 changed his plans; and, his wife's health having improved, he looked forward to leaving a climate which he had never liked. He remained in Rockton and Beloit, occupied in farming, banking, and general mercantile business until the year 1867, when, with his family, he moved to Ionia, where he still resides. Since coming to Ionia, he has been engaged in manufacturing and selling lumber. After an active business life of forty years, his reputation for business integrity stands unquestioned. He has always been able to pay one hundred cents on a dollar; has never had a judgment rendered against him, except once in his early life; and has never had a note of his making protested for non-payment. In October, 1838, he received a commission from William L. Marcy, then Governor of the State of New York, as Quartermaster of the 37th Brigade of Infantry, on the staff of Brigadier-General William Salesbury. This position he held four years, when he resigned. December 24, 1861, being then in Springfield, Illinois, he received a commission from General Richard Yates, as his temporary Military Aid, and was detailed to visit the several regiments and detached companies of the volunteers of Illinois, under instructions from Allen C. Fuller, Adjutant-General of the State. In this capacity, he visited the Illinois regiments in the Department of North Missouri. His principal duties were to see the troops provided with the necessary arms, clothing, medicine, camp and garrison equipments, etc., and to supply all deficiencies. While at Greenville, Greene County, New York, he held the office of Trustee, and Secretary of the Board of Trustees, of Greenville Academy; he also represented that town on the Board of Supervisors of Greene County, holding the office for two years. He was honored with a similar position at Angelica, Alleghany County, being a member of the Board for two years, and the last year acting as chairman of that body. After his removal to Rockton, Illinois, the people soon called him to serve in official positions, electing him, without opposition, to represent them on the Board of Supervisors of Winnebago County, for the years 1862, 63-64. Always a public-spirited and enterprising citizen, the people of Ionia were not slow to recognize his character, and called on him accordingly. In July, 1872, a company was organized to build a railroad from Ionia to Stanton, in Montcalm County, and Mr. Stanton was elected a Director, and its first Secretary and Treasurer. His connection with the road, in those positions, lasted until its consolidation with the Detroit, Lansing and Lake Michigan Railroad Company,



November 30, 1872. He took a lively interest in the completion of the railroad, taking upon himself many arduous duties and weighty responsibilities. As an officer of the company, he proved himself a capable, efficient, and faithful servant, as well as a straightforward, energetic, and enthusiastic business man. Mr. Stanton was connected with the Democratic party until 1856, when he became a Republican. He married, at Greenville, Greene County, New York, September 2, 1840, Mary, daughter of Newman Sanford, of that place. Her eldest brother, Mitchell, was a prominent lawyer of that State, and was, for four years, State Senator from the district comprising Schoharie, Greene, and Delaware Counties. Her eldest sister, Abatha, was the wife of the late Erastus Boems, a prominent lawyer of New York, and a partner of Lucius Robinson, the present Governor of New York State. Another sister, Sally, is widow of the late Cyril Blain, at the time of his death pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Angelica, New York. Two other brothers of Mrs. Stanton are Judge Sanford, of Middletown, New York, and Newman Sanford, deceased, of Springport, Jackson County, Michigan. Mr. Stanton, though not professedly a Christian, attends the services of the Episcopal Church; his wife has been a member of that denomination for twenty-five years. His mother, who makes her home with him, has reached the ripe age of eighty-four. Her family are remarkable for their longevity, as she has living three sisters aged respectively ninety-two, seventy-five, and seventy-three years, and two brothers that have reached the ages of eighty-eight and eighty-five.

**STEARNS, GEORGE L.**, Manufacturer, of Grand Haven, was the son of Asa and Anna (Padcock) Stearns, and was born in Amsterdam, Montgomery County, New York, January 22, 1832. He attended school a short time, where he obtained a limited knowledge of the elementary branches of study. He has educated himself by reading and observation, and is now a man of much learning. His father was a noted mechanic, and owned a factory, the management of which, on account of poor health, he gave to his son, when the latter was but sixteen years of age. In 1853 Mr. Stearns became a contractor and builder in Montgomery and Schoharie counties, New York; and, in 1856, in Waukesha County, Wisconsin, where his parents had recently removed. In the spring of 1858, he married Miss Mary E. Snyder. In 1862 he enlisted in the 67th Illinois Regiment, and was honorably discharged in the same year. He immediately went to Appleton, Wisconsin, where he engaged in carrying on a furniture factory. Two weeks later, the building was consumed by fire; but he took another, and continued the busi-

ness for some time. After giving up this occupation, he removed to Whitewater, Wisconsin, and was very successful until he again lost his property by fire. About this time, his wife died, leaving three sons to their father's care. He then removed to Iowa, where he engaged in canvassing. In 1868 he married the sister of his former wife, at Cedar Falls, Black Hawk County, Iowa. During the next four years, he had continual struggles with fortune, through which he preserved the strictest integrity. In the spring of 1874, he removed to Grand Haven, Michigan, and entered into business with the firm of Chaffe & Stearns. Soon after, Mr. Chaffe sold his interest, and the firm became Stearns Brothers, sash, door, and blind manufacturers. In politics, Mr. Stearns is a Republican. His religious views are liberal, and are the result of deep thought and earnest inquiry. He is a member of the order of Odd-Fellows and of the Masonic Fraternity, and lives consistently in accordance with their exemplary precepts. He is of a genial nature, and has an inexhaustible fund of wit. He is a thorough, reliable, business man; working with energy and zeal, and has the respect of the entire community.

**STEVENSON, MAJOR T. G.**, of Ionia, was born in that city July 26, 1842. His father, John Stevenson, was born in England, and came to America in 1831. He settled in Ionia in 1836, being one of the earliest pioneers of the Grand River Valley. He is a leading member of the Methodist Episcopal Church; a man of great piety and strict integrity, and is universally respected and beloved. His wife, Jean Stevenson, was born in Scotland. She is a most estimable woman. Mr. Thomas Stevenson, their second son, grew to manhood in Ionia, in which place he has since made his home. He received a common-school education, and early learned the printing business, obtaining the knowledge at odd hours out of school time. Before he had attained the age of eighteen, he had earned, by working in the printing-office of the *Ionia Gazette*, sufficient money to pay his expenses for two years at the Vpsilanti Seminary. He thus fitted himself for a regular course at the State University, but the war changed his plans; and, at the age of twenty years, he enlisted in the 21st Michigan Infantry. He was immediately appointed Sergeant-Major of the regiment; and, in less than eighteen months, was successively promoted to Second Lieutenant, First Lieutenant, and Captain. He was with his regiment in the battles of Perryville, Stone River, Chickamauga, Averbysboro, Bentonville, and in many minor battles and skirmishes, distinguishing himself by his coolness and bravery. When General Sherman's army cut loose from its base of supplies at Atlanta,

Captain Stevenson was appointed Adjutant-General of a newly organized brigade. He served in that capacity on the march to the sea, and through the Carolinas to Washington, where he took part in the grand review. At the end of his service, his meritorious conduct gained him the brevet of Major. On his return home, his thoughts naturally turned to journalism; and, in May, 1866, in company with his present partner, Captain J. C. Taylor, an old school-mate and army companion, he began the publication of the *Ionia Sentinel*, a Republican weekly journal. With the exception of two years spent in Colorado and California, he has given his time to its management; and, with Captain Taylor, has succeeded in building up one of the best weekly papers in Michigan. Major Stevenson is a member of the Masonic Fraternity. He is a strong Republican, and takes a prominent part in local and State politics. He was married, June 24, 1874, to Hannah C. Blanchard, daughter of Hon. John Blanchard, of Ionia, a beautiful and highly esteemed lady. Major Stevenson's address is pleasing; his disposition frank and genial. As a citizen, he is wide-awake and liberal, and wields a strong influence over the young men of his class and party. He is an enterprising business man, a tireless worker, yet an enthusiastic lover of all genuine and healthful amusements. Since the war, he has traveled extensively in the Southern States, and on the Pacific coast. He is a pleasant companion, a good citizen, and a true friend.

**STORRS, HON. WALES FISHER**, Manufacturer, Grand Haven, was born in Westport, Essex County, New York, January 19, 1816. He is the second son of Elijah and Julia (Holcomb) Storrs. His mother, a native of New England, was of Puritan descent. His father was born in Mansfield, Connecticut, the old home of the Storrs family. He held a commission in the War of 1812, and fought in the battle of Plattsburg. He and his wife lived to an advanced age, and are buried in Lakeside Cemetery, near the city of Grand Haven. Mr. W. F. Storrs attended the common schools, and studied carefully at home. In 1834, with his parents, he moved to Portage County, Ohio, where he worked on his father's farm until the autumn of 1836. At that time, he married Elizabeth Cranmer, and afterwards taught school for several years; he was eminently successful, doing much to elevate the standard of popular education in the county. In the fall of 1859 he removed to Ottawa County, Michigan, and engaged in the lumber business, in which he has since spent most of his time. In 1866 he was elected to represent his county in the Lower House of the State Legislature, and, in 1870, he was elected to the Senate. In 1872 a renomination was tendered, but he declined to accept it. Being too old to

serve as a soldier in the late war, he provided a substitute, and, by every means in his power, sought to aid his country. Both by precept and example, he has upheld the cause of temperance and reform. His conduct is always marked by liberality and strict integrity. Mr. Storrs was a Whig until 1854, when he joined the Republican party, of whose principles he has since been a firm advocate. At the age of fourteen he united with the Congregational Church, and has always maintained a consistent Christian character. He is now an elder of the First Presbyterian Church of Grand Haven. His wife died in 1866, and, in 1868, he married Edna L. Niles, of Broome County, New York. His only son, Cassius Percival, died in 1877, leaving a young son and daughter.

**SMITH, GEORGE D.**, Muskegon, was born at New Marlborough, Berkshire County, Massachusetts, June 27, 1838. His father, George C. Smith, was elected State Representative in 1837. He removed from Massachusetts to Connecticut, in April, 1842; and thence to Ohio, in August, 1843. In October, 1845, the family went to Pennsylvania, where they remained until the following April. They then returned to Ohio, whence they removed to Michigan, and settled in the village of Allegan, where Mr. Smith received a good business education. Leaving school at the age of seventeen, Mr. Smith was employed as clerk in a mercantile establishment in Allegan, and remained for thirteen years. Desiring a change of employment, he was induced by some railway contractors to engage with them, as book-keeper and pay-master, for several years. In 1872 he removed to the city of Muskegon, Michigan, where he entered the office of the Muskegon Booming Company, as their acting Secretary and Treasurer. He still holds the position. In the years 1870-71 he was elected village Clerk and Treasurer of Allegan; he was also Township Clerk at the same time. Mr. Smith is prominently connected with all public enterprises that are designed to favor the growth and prosperity of the city. He is a member of the Masonic Fraternity, and is a Knight of Pythias. He married, December 15, 1864, Helen A. Weeks, of Allegan, Michigan.

**STONE, JOHN W.**, Lawyer, was born in Wadsworth, Medina County, Ohio, July 18, 1838. His father, Chauncey Stone, is a farmer, and a local preacher of the Methodist Episcopal Church, at Dorr, Allegan County, Michigan. His mother is Sarah, daughter of John Bird, of Vermont. Mr. Stone acquired his early education at the district schools of Medina County, Ohio, and afterwards attended, for two years, a select



school taught by W. W. Ross, at Spencer, Ohio. In the spring of 1856, he came to Michigan, and taught school for four winters. In 1860 he began the study of law, in the office of Silas Stafford, at Martin, Allegan County. In the same year, he was elected County Clerk of Allegan County, and was re-elected in 1862. While discharging the duties of this office, he still continued the study of law, and, in 1862, was admitted to the bar. In 1864 he was elected Prosecuting Attorney of Allegan County, and held the office for six years. In January, 1865, he formed a partnership with D. J. Arnold, who is now Judge of the Twentieth Circuit of Michigan. This business relation was continued until Mr. Stone was elected Circuit Judge, in April, 1873. He held the office until November, 1874, when he tendered his resignation, and entered the law firm of Norris & Blair, of Grand Rapids. In November, 1875, Mr. Norris retired from the firm, and the two remaining members formed a partnership with Williard Kingsley, under the firm name of Blair, Stone & Kingsley. This firm possesses one of the finest law libraries in the State. Judge Stone has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for twenty-two years, and is one of its active workers. In 1872 he was a delegate to the General Conference, held at Brooklyn, New York, and also to the Conference which was held in Baltimore, Maryland, in 1876. Judge Stone was elected to Congress in 1876 from the Fifth Congressional District of Michigan. He is a Republican. In 1861 he was married to Delia M. Grover, daughter of A. P. Grover. They have four children. In presenting a case to a jury, Judge Stone has a very happy manner. He shows a ready and comprehensive grasp of his causes, and at once inspires confidence in his ability and fairness.

**SQUIER, JOHN W.**, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, was born October 4, 1799. His early life was passed in New Jersey. In 1836 Mr. Squier removed to Farmington, Michigan, where he became engaged, as afterwards at Saline, in the business of wool-carding and cloth-dressing. In the early days of Grand Rapids, he came to that city, and, with his brother-in-law, D. C. Lawrence, built the old stone mill, which has long been one of the landmarks, and which was burned in 1862. In order to obtain the necessary mill stones, he went to Jackson, built a scow, loaded it with the stones, and floated it down to Grand Rapids. At one time, having sold his dry-goods store for a mill, which many of the old settlers remember as standing just below Jericho, he carried on a large lumber business. Mr. Squier was largely instrumental in bringing the best theatrical talent to his city, by erecting the opera-house, finished in 1859, and opened by T. Sher-

lock, of Detroit. Since that time, many of the most renowned actors have been engaged; among others, Edwin Forrest and H. Lanagan. The opera-house burned, May 8, 1872, and was rebuilt the same year. The pioneers of Michigan remember with gratitude the liberality and thoughtfulness of Mr. Squier. His religion,—“to give to him that needeth,”—was faithfully carried out; he was at all times ready to give both counsel and material aid. He was, as his success in life has demonstrated, a man of fine business ability, and energy. In his family, he was ever the kind helper and counselor, and he will always be remembered by his fellow-citizens as a public benefactor. In 1824 Mr. Squier married Miss Mary Lawrence, at Pen Yan, New York. He died, October 3, 1874, leaving a wife, three sons,—Samuel, John, and D. D.,—and three daughters,—Mrs. Grinnell (a sketch of whose husband appears elsewhere in this work), Mrs. Ashley, and Mrs. Evans. [See sketch of Henry Grinnell.]

**SUTHERLAND, REV. JOHN ROSS**, Pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Grand Haven, was born in Oxford County, Ontario, Canada, on the 7th of November, 1846. His parents came from Scotland, and settled in Quebec, in 1833. Here his father remained for some time, in the employ of the Provincial Government, engaged in the erection of what was then called the New Fort. After its completion he removed, with his family, to the western province, and resided for about a year at Toronto,—then called Little York. He then settled on a farm which he had bought in Oxford County, about one hundred miles west of Toronto. Mr. John Sutherland was the youngest of seven children, two daughters and five sons. Four of the sons studied professions,—two becoming physicians, and two clergymen. Mr. Sutherland's early education was received in Woodstock and Toronto, Canada. His tastes were of a literary character, and led to his receiving, at the age of sixteen, an appointment upon one of the provincial papers. He thus became the youngest journalist in the Dominion of Canada; and, probably, the youngest on the continent. His parents were both honored members of the Presbyterian Church, his father having been deacon for upwards of thirty years. They gave their son a religious training from his infancy, but he manifested no desire to follow in their footsteps. In 1868, however, he experienced an intense religious conviction, which impelled him to relinquish journalism and enter the ministry. He, accordingly, resumed his studies in Knox College, Toronto. In 1870 he entered Auburn Theological Seminary, where he spent one year; and, in the spring of 1873, completed his course of study at the Theological Seminary of the North-west, at Chicago,

His record in the seminary, for general proficiency and preaching ability, was unusually high. He was licensed to preach by the Presbytery of Chicago, in the spring of 1872. Immediately after graduating he was called to the pastorate of the Eighth Presbyterian Church of Indianapolis, Indiana. While there, many of his sermons were published in the city papers, attracting considerable attention, and receiving favorable comment. The climate of that locality was unfavorable to his health and compelled him to resign. He then accepted a call to the First Presbyterian Church of Grand Haven, Michigan. His labors here have been signally blessed, the membership having almost doubled since the commencement of his pastorate. Mr. Sutherland married, in the fall of 1874, Miss Adelia M. Atkin, of New York City. He is a forcible speaker; a clear, logical reasoner, and his sermons give evidence of careful study. He seeks not so much to interest and please, as to force home to the minds and hearts of his hearers some sound Gospel truth.

**S**WEET, HON. MARTIN L., Banker, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, was born at Paris, Oneida County, New York, on the 21st of February, 1819, his parents having removed there from their native place in New England. After receiving a common-school education, he worked in a flour-mill, owned by his father, until he had saved nine hundred dollars. On the death of his father, which occurred when he was but fourteen years old, he decided to go to Chicago, and made the trip from Detroit by steamboat in eleven days. Not finding a satisfactory object in which to invest his money, he returned to his native village, and to his work in the mill, where he remained until he attained his twentieth year. During the following three years, he engaged in business elsewhere in New York, and in Ohio. In 1842 he went to Michigan, and, for the subsequent four years, was employed in charge of mills at Ann Arbor, Dexter, and Delhi. At the latter place, he built a mill for himself, and lived there until 1846. In January of that year, he went to Grand Rapids, and there, in partnership with Mr. Clemens, bought what was then known as the "Old Mill," the charred skeleton of which may yet be seen as it was left after the fire in 1876. In the July following, he disposed of his property at Delhi, and removed his family to Grand Rapids, where he has since resided, and has distinguished himself as an enterprising and public-spirited citizen. In 1853 Mr. Sweet built the Grand Rapids City Mills. He controlled the grain business in Grand River Valley for several years; some of his transactions amounting to more than a million dollars, and his manufactures for the Eastern markets to more than fifty thousand barrels of flour. He retained a large interest

in the City Mills until the close of 1867, when he sold out, and disconnected himself with the business. At that time there was no first-class hotel in the city, and the popular opinion fixed upon Mr. Sweet as the gentleman who had the means and enterprise to erect one. The ground selected was, however, very unfavorable; as a deep and rapid arm of the river swept through it, and made necessary, in obtaining a foundation, an amount of labor and expense sufficient to complete an ordinary building of similar character. But, with that indomitable spirit which he has ever manifested, Mr. Sweet overcame all difficulties. He turned the river out of its course, and in its bed laid the foundations of a building nearly one-third the size of an ordinary city block. Upon this he erected a superstructure four stories and a half in height, of a style of architecture admirably suited to its purpose, with accommodations for hundreds of guests; and, on the ground floor, offices and stores for the business of the hotel and other purposes. The construction of this hotel presented, in the course of its erection, obstacles so formidable as to discourage any ordinary man; but the subject of this sketch is not an ordinary man. After three years of nearly constant labor, at an expense of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, the "Sweet House," as it is usually called, was ready for the reception of the public; and, in September, 1869, was opened by Lawrence & French, of Adrian, Michigan. But it was not yet satisfactory to its tireless and exacting builder. Becoming convinced, after a lapse of three years, that the position of the ground-floor, on the level of the streets which the building fronts, would be a disadvantage when those streets were raised, Mr. Sweet resolved to have the whole structure lifted nearly five feet above its original elevation. This, with other improvements, he happily accomplished in 1872, at an expense of forty thousand dollars. In February, 1872, a fire partially destroyed his hotel, and caused, for a time, the suspension of its business. It was rebuilt by the proprietor, however, and re-opened in the following May. At the present time it divides with the Morton House all the first-class business of the city. In 1861, on the suspension of Daniel Ball & Co., bankers, Mr. Sweet purchased their establishment and engaged in banking. He was assisted by Mr. H. J. Hollister, the present cashier of the first National Bank of Grand Rapids, and his own eldest son, then a youth of fourteen years. Three years afterwards, he merged this bank into the First National, of which he became a stockholder to the extent of half of its capital. In 1872 Mr. Sweet built, at Ludington, on the shore of Lake Michigan, in Mason County, saw-mills of such capacity, that, under the superintendence of his eldest son, they turn out fourteen million feet of lumber each year. He also owns large tracts of pine lands in Mason, Newaygo, Oceana, and Lake counties, in Michigan; and possesses,



in fee-simple, three farms, aggregating four hundred and eighty acres, principally good land, which he cultivates successfully. On the 20th of July, 1844, at Rome, New York, Mr. Sweet married Miss Desdemona S., daughter of Mr. Phineas C. Higgins, Baldwinsville, New York. They have a daughter and two sons, all of whom have grown to maturity. The eldest son controls his father's large lumber business and landed interests in the north-western part of the State. The second son is a lawyer, of fine education, having finished his studies in Germany. The daughter is Mrs. R. J. Mitchell, of Grand Rapids. In politics, Mr. Sweet is a Republican. He was the first Mayor elected on the Republican ticket in the city of his residence. He has also served as Alderman of his ward; but latterly has declined all nominations for office, as his private business is quite sufficient to occupy his time. He was educated a Presbyterian, and became, in early manhood, a Congregationalist. He has been a trustee of that church at Grand Rapids sixteen years. As a gentleman of public spirit, no one is held in higher esteem than Mr. Sweet; especially among those who know him best, and have witnessed his efforts for the advancement of Grand Rapids. He was the first to introduce into the city stone flagging for sidewalks, in preference to the plank that was cheaper and more conveniently obtained; and was also the first to use large and heavy plate-glass wherever it could be satisfactorily employed. During the thirty years of his business life in Grand Rapids, his helping hand has been extended to all worthy charitable objects; towards the construction of the various church buildings, and to railroads and all enterprises which have so largely contributed to the prosperity of the place. Aided in no slight measure by the sound sense and womanly insight of his faithful helpmeet, he has won the friendship and confidence of all with whom he has had business or social intercourse. Although in advanced middle age, he may be found daily, at an early hour, in his office, completing, with the aid of his son, the business of the previous day. He is abstemious in his habits, and has so mastered his far from robust constitution, that, to the present time, it has but once or twice failed him. Mr. Sweet is in every way worthy to be called a public benefactor, and an eminent, self-made man.

**STEARNS, LOWTON B.**, of Grand Haven, son of Asa and Anna (Padcock) Stearns, was born in Amsterdam, New York, March 11, 1837. He attended, for a short time, the common schools of his native village; and, at the age of seventeen, was apprenticed to learn the trade of a harness-maker. He served one year, and became somewhat skillful. In 1855 he removed to Wisconsin. In 1859 he visited Pike's Peak; and, on his return, en-

gaged in farm work in Waukesha, Wisconsin. In 1862 he enlisted in the army, and served until 1865, when he was mustered out. In the fall of that year, he was successfully engaged in contracting and building in White Water, Wisconsin. In 1873 he removed to Grand Haven, and became a member of the firm of Chaffe & Stearns, manufacturers of sashes, doors, blinds, etc. They carried on a profitable business. In 1875 Mr. Stearns and his brother purchased Mr. Chaffe's interest, and the firm name was changed to Stearns Brothers. Under their judicious management, the business has rapidly increased, and, for fine workmanship and reliability, admits but little competition. March 23, 1864, Mr. Stearns was married to Frances Caroline Payne, daughter of one of the oldest settlers in Aztalan, Jefferson County, Wisconsin. Mr. Stearns is a Republican, but has never taken an active part in politics. He is a member of the society of Odd-Fellows, and also of the Knights of Honor. He is a man of sound judgment and strict integrity, and is highly respected by his associates.

**STOUGHTON, GENERAL WILLIAM L.**, Lawyer, Grand Rapids, Michigan, is a native of Bangor, New York, and was born March 20, 1827. He acquired his education at Kirtland, Painesville, and Madison Academies, in Ohio. In 1847 he began the study of law, in the office of S. B. Axtell, at Painesville, Ohio; he continued his law studies with Hon. John B. Howe, of Lima, Indiana, and also with Smith & Upson, of Centreville, Michigan, until the year 1851, when he was admitted to the bar of the Supreme Court of Michigan. In 1855 he was elected Prosecuting Attorney, and was re-elected in 1857; in March, 1861, he was appointed, by President Lincoln, United States District-Attorney for the District of Michigan. He served until after the battle of Bull Run, when he resigned his position, and entered the army as Lieutenant-Colonel of the 11th Michigan Infantry. On April 1, 1862, he was appointed Colonel, and served throughout the war as Colonel and Brigadier-General. At the close of the war, he was made Brevet Major-General, "for gallantry in the field." He commanded a regiment at the battle of Stone River, and, in the official reports, he was especially mentioned for bravery in holding his position, and for a charge made into the cedars, to cover the retreat of the right flank of the army. He commanded a brigade at the battle of Chickamauga, and was one of the last officers to leave the field with his command. He withdrew, after dark, to Rossville, where, by direction of General Thomas, he took a position on the hills, covering the approach to Chattanooga, and held it against the attack of the enemy until the following night. In the meantime, it had been decided to withdraw the

whole army to Chattanooga and fortify that position. In pursuance of this plan, General Stoughton was ordered to send back his entire command, with the rest of the army, and take charge of four regiments on picket duty, covering the entire front of the army. At night, the artillery wheels were muffled, and the whole army moved silently away. He remained until daybreak, when he withdrew the picket line, and reached Chattanooga without the loss of a single man. As the result of this operation, the Union army had ample time to go into position and erect substantial field-works before the enemy approached in force. General Stoughton also commanded a brigade at the battle of Mission Ridge, which was composed of four regiments of regulars, and two regiments of volunteers,—the 11th Michigan Infantry and the 19th Illinois Infantry. He had command of the same brigade during the battles of Resaca, New Hope Church, and Ruff's Station; at the last-named place, after carrying one line of the enemy's works, he lost a leg by a cannon shot. In August, 1864, being unfit for active duty, he returned to his home, at Sturgis, Michigan, and, in 1865, resumed the practice of law. In 1866 he was elected Attorney-General of the State of Michigan, and held the office for two years. In 1868 he was elected Representative in Congress, from the Fourth Congressional District of Michigan, and was re-elected in 1870. He served with distinction on the Committee on Military Affairs, and on that of the Coinage. Under his leadership two bills were passed, equalizing the bounties of soldiers. In June, 1872, he was appointed Chairman of the House Committee of Visitors to the Military Academy at West Point. In Congress, General Stoughton advocated what he considered a judicious, national economy, and attended thoroughly to the wants of his own district. He favored a financial policy which would give the country a currency equal to its growing wants and necessities. He opposed the withdrawing of greenbacks, until the country was fully prepared to resume specie payment by natural causes and the laws of trade. Believing the measure to be right, he voted in favor of increasing the salaries of the President of the United States, Judges of the Supreme Court, and members of Congress. He married, December 9, 1856, Olive J. Page, daughter of David Page, an old resident and prominent citizen of Sturgis, Michigan. They have a family of four children. Upon his retirement from Congress, he again resumed the practice of law, and, in May, 1874, removed to the city of Grand Rapids, where he has since been engaged in the active business of his profession, holding a prominent position at the bar. General Stoughton's record as a soldier and statesman is one of which any man might be proud; and he is equally zealous and useful in discharging the duties of a private citizen. Bearing the marks of his patriotism, he will always be honored as one of his country's brave defenders.

**T**AYLOR, PROF. AUGUSTUS W., a Pioneer School-teacher of Ottawa County, was born in Warren, Connecticut, July 16, 1819, and was the son of Sears Taylor. He received his early education in the Academy at Warren, and completed his collegiate course at Williams College, Massachusetts. Being fond of literary pursuits, he engaged as teacher in the public schools at Warren in 1835. Three years after, he removed to Orangeburg, South Carolina, where he had charge of an academy one year. About the year 1840, he returned to the North, and taught eight years in the public schools of Erie County, New York. In 1853 he removed to Grand Haven, where he engaged in teaching two years. In 1856 he was elected Judge of Probate of Ottawa County, and served eight years. In 1867 he was appointed County Superintendent of Schools for Ottawa County, Michigan, by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and served in that capacity three years. In 1870 he became Principal of Spring Lake High School. He has been a worthy member of the society of Odd-Fellows for over twenty years. In politics, he is a Republican. His religious views are liberal and rational. He married, in July, 1848, Miss Alvira Smith, of Lancaster, Erie County, New York. They have had two children,—a son and a daughter. Mr. Taylor is a man of strict integrity and tireless energy. He is modest and unassuming, and has a spotless reputation. He is held in grateful remembrance by his pupils, and occupies a high position in the community.

**T**ATE, HON. SAMUEL LIVINGSTON, of Grand Haven, Michigan, was born in Leeds, England, January 14, 1839. He is the son of Henry and Elizabeth (Haigh) Tate. His father is of Scotch lineage, and his mother is a direct descendant of one of the French Huguenots who fled to England to escape the Catholic persecution. His parents emigrated to this country in 1842, and settled in Leyden, Franklin County, Massachusetts. Feeble health and loss of property obliged his father to practice the greatest economy in rearing his family of nine children. Mr. Tate, until he was fourteen, attended the common school in winter; helped his father to make boots and shoes after school hours, and, in summer, worked for the neighboring farmers. His only opportunities for study and reading were occasional spare hours in the evening. In 1853 the family removed to Peru, La Salle County, Illinois, where Mr. Tate was employed for two years on the Chicago and Rock Island Railroad. He afterwards worked on a farm, until the fall of 1861. His desire for an education increased as he grew older; and, upon reaching his majority, he went to Wheaton University, where he remained until he had passed through the sophomore



year. In order to meet his expenses, he taught school at intervals, sold books, and engaged in various other occupations. He passed his junior year at Adrian College; and, in 1869, graduated from Albion College. Having, meanwhile, studied law, he received his degree of LL. B. at the University of Chicago the same year. The following day, he was admitted to the bar by the Supreme Court of Illinois. He began the practice of his profession at Evansville, Rock County, Wisconsin, in the fall, but removed, in 1870, to Grand Haven, Michigan. During the last year of the late Rebellion, he served, as Orderly Sergeant, in a regiment of Illinois volunteers. In 1871 he was Circuit Court Commissioner and Injunction Master for Ottawa County. In 1872 he was elected Judge of Probate for the same county; and, on the expiration of his term of office in 1876, was unanimously renominated and re-elected. In 1874 he was appointed to the Common Council of Grand Haven to succeed Clark B. Albee, deceased. Mr. Tate was a disciple of such men as Greeley, Sumner, and Lovejoy; and sought the first opportunity to engage in the conflict between freedom and slavery. He was a zealous worker in the first election of Abraham Lincoln, and has since been an active Republican. In 1872 he was a delegate to the Republican State Convention, and was there nominated a delegate to the National Convention at Philadelphia. In 1861 he joined the Congregational Church. He took an active part in re-organizing the Grand Haven Congregational Church, and in erecting its present beautiful house of worship. He has since been a trustee and deacon, and has several times been elected a delegate to the General Association. He married, June 16, 1869,—the day before he graduated from Albion College,—Frances Belle Wilcox, of Coral, Illinois, a member of the junior class of the same college. They have three children.

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**T**AYLOR, HON. CHARLES H., of Grand Rapids, was born in Cooperstown, New York, November 20, 1813. In 1817 his father removed to Rochester, which was then a village of some five or six hundred inhabitants. He received an ordinary academic education. In 1836 he removed to Grand Rapids, Michigan, his father having died seven years previously. At that time Grand Rapids contained less than twenty buildings; here young Taylor settled, and identified himself with the interests of the growing place, holding various positions of trust and honor. He served as County Clerk for eight years; in 1846 he was elected to the Legislature, and was re-elected in 1847. He was appointed, by Governor Ransom, one of the five Asylum Commissioners; the others being Chancellor Farnsworth, of Detroit; Hon. Charles E. Stewart, of Kalamazoo; John P. Cook, of Hillsdale; and Charles C. Haskell, of

Flint. This Board selected the sites, and purchased the grounds upon which are located the Insane Asylum at Kalamazoo, and the Deaf and Dumb Asylum at Flint. In 1849 Mr. Taylor was appointed, by Governor Barry, Secretary of State, which office he held for three years, having been elected in 1850. In 1854 he was made Register of the Land Office for the Sheboygan District; but, after three years, owing to the pressure of private business, he resigned. In August, 1866, he became Postmaster, under President Johnson; but held the office less than a year, as a Republican Senate refused to confirm a Democratic appointee. From 1847 until 1855, he edited the Grand Rapids *Enquirer*. In 1861-2 he was editor-in-chief and part proprietor of the Detroit *Free Press*, but failing health compelled him to relinquish his labors. That which especially distinguishes Mr. Taylor, and gives him a position in this work, is the sterling integrity which he manifested in a degree uncommon even among the strictest business men. In 1856 he completed a four-story block of buildings fronting on Canal street, between Pearl and Lyon streets, and put into it nearly every dollar of his fortune, acquired by years of self-denial and hard labor. Shortly afterwards, the foundation gave way and the edifice fell, a mass of ruins. His numerous friends freely volunteered their assistance in re-erecting the building. This event, which was soon followed by the financial difficulties of 1857, loaded him with obligations which almost any other man would, by means legally allowable, have thrown off. But Mr. Taylor, working faithfully for eighteen years, during many of which he has been an invalid, has paid dollar for dollar of his indebtedness, principal and interest. So signal an instance of individual integrity and scrupulousness is seldom manifested by any business man; and, when it occurs, it should, for the benefit of future generations, be duly recorded, that all may pay "honor to whom honor is due." To-day Mr. Taylor stands before his fellow-men, a living illustration of the text, "A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches."

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**T**HOMAS, WILLIAM B., of Ionia, Michigan, the son of Christie and Sarah (Martin) Thomas, was born, August 12, 1831, at Rush, Monroe County, New York, and is of German descent. He received an academic education at Genesee Wesleyan Seminary, Genesee College, and at Lima, New York. He studied medicine at the Michigan and Buffalo Universities, and graduated at the latter place in 1857. He practiced medicine first at Otsego, Allegan County, Michigan; afterwards, at Muir, Ionia County, until 1861, when he settled permanently in Ionia. In 1862 Mr. Thomas entered the United States Army as Surgeon of the 21st Michigan Volunteers.

He resigned, in 1863, on account of ill health; returned to Ionia to resume the practice of his profession, and was appointed Examining-Surgeon for Pensions, which office he still retains. In 1866 he was made United States Marshal of the Western District of Michigan. Impaired health obliged Mr. Thomas to relinquish the general practice of medicine. He studied law, and was admitted to the bar in 1870. He was elected Justice of the Peace in 1870; County Superintendent of Schools in 1872, and Circuit Court Commissioner in 1874. He became a Master Mason in 1854; a Royal Arch Mason and Knight Templar in 1865; and has been High Priest of Ionia Chapter, and Eminent Commander of Ionia Commandery. Mr. Thomas joined the Baptist Church at Rush, New York, in 1850, and the Presbyterian Church at Ionia, Michigan, in 1865. He was a Whig until 1856; a Democrat till 1860; a Republican until 1866; and is now a Democrat. In February, 1861, he married Cordelia W. Norton. They have two children.

THAYER, HON. GEORGE W., present Mayor (1877) of the city of Grand Rapids, Michigan, was born at Burlington, Vermont, September 27, 1827. His father, Nathaniel Thayer, was a native of Massachusetts, and a man of powerful physique and great strength of character. His mother, Pamela Lyon, daughter of Asa Lyon, of Shelburn, Vermont, was a woman of strong sense and equable temperament; and, although quiet and retiring in disposition, exhibited a lively interest in the temporal and spiritual welfare of her family and friends. By great personal effort and self-denial, Mr. Thayer was enabled to obtain a good education, in the schools of Burlington and Johnson, Vermont; and, in his eighteenth year, at the suggestion of his uncle,—the late Hon. Lucius Lyon, then Surveyor-General of the North-western Territories of the United States,—entered his uncle's office in Detroit. Desirous of fitting himself for the profession of surveyor and civil engineer, he accepted a subordinate position in an expedition conducted by Mr. Lyon and the late Dr. Douglas Houghton, having for its object a linear, geographical, and geological survey of the then almost unknown upper peninsula of Michigan. Although this work tested his endurance almost beyond his powers, he successfully did all he had undertaken to do, and, by rough experience, learned what effort can accomplish. In addition to the advantages arising from his connection with this expedition, conversation and practice with men of so much general information and scientific knowledge were of much benefit to him in the study of his chosen profession, and subsequently of the greatest value. Upon his return, Mr. Thayer again entered the office of his uncle. He soon won promotion, and eventu-

ally reached the position of chief clerk, which he filled with honor to himself and satisfaction to his business associates. In 1856 the office was removed to Minnesota, when he resigned, being indisposed to leave the State. Five years after, he removed to Grand Rapids, where he engaged in the business of a retail and wholesale grocer. It is an occupation to which he is not especially adapted; but, having entered it, he has carried it on successfully. In public life, Mr. Thayer served a term as City Clerk; and, for some years, was manager of the first street railroad established in Grand Rapids. Under his management, this road became, for the first time in its history, popular and profitable to its owners. Having been elected Mayor in the spring of 1877, he is proving himself to be a most efficient executive officer. Within the first quarter of his term of office, he has been mainly instrumental in inaugurating much needed reforms in certain departments of the city government, which elicits the thanks of the citizens. Mr. Thayer is a man of extensive general knowledge, having comprehensive understanding of all practical subjects. His nature is positive, but he acts only after great deliberation. With him, system and order are first in importance. Fairness and honesty of purpose influence him in all his dealings with his fellow-citizens and co-workers; and his friendships, strong and worthily bestowed, turn on his love of right and abhorrence of wrong. As with all men of positive character, by many he is neither understood nor appreciated. In politics, he has acted with the Democratic party; and, in early life, embraced the religious views embodied in the doctrines of Emmanuel Swedenborg. On the 10th of October, 1849, Mr. Thayer married Anna Grace, daughter of John Cubley, an emigrant from Derbyshire, England. They have four sons, all of whom are living.

THOMPSON, HON. CHARLES C., of Whitehall, Michigan, was born, June 4, 1831, in Beekmantown, Clinton County, New York. He is the son of Shubal T. and Margaret J. Thompson. His father, a soldier in the War of 1812, afterwards became a Methodist minister. Mr. Thompson passed his boyhood in alternate work on the farm and at school, and, finally, devoted himself entirely to farming for a number of years. In his twentieth year, he married Harriet M. Dewey, of Clinton County, New York. He attributes to her much of the success which has attended his career. Soon after his marriage, he moved to Grafton, McHenry County, Illinois, where he worked a farm for seven years. During this time, he took charge, not only of his own family, but of his younger brothers and sisters, who were thrown upon his care by the death of his father. In 1857 he settled at White Lake, Muskegon







*Yours Truly*  
*Osmond Power*



County, Michigan. In 1858, in partnership with A. J. Covell, he bought a saw-mill, at the head of White Lake, where Whitehall now stands, and commenced the manufacture of lumber. In 1859 he purchased Mr. Covell's interest, and, for two years, worked the mill alone. At the end of that time, he opened a general mercantile store, with Mr. Covell and another gentleman as partners. This was carried on during four years, in connection with the lumber business. The company then sold the saw-mill, and built a schooner of one hundred and sixty tons burden, for shipping lumber. In 1867 Mr. Thompson again bought out Mr. Covell's interest, and carried on the business for two years, with his Chicago partner. Whitehall, which had been laid out seven years before, was incorporated as a village, and received its present name, in 1867. Mr. Thompson contributed freely of his time and money to promote the growth of the place. He was a member of the first Common Council at Whitehall, and has been President of the village, Trustee, and Supervisor. He has been a member of the Board of Education for a number of years, and has labored zealously for the improvement of the schools. As a Representative in the State Legislature of 1873-74, Mr. Thompson earned the reputation of a faithful, earnest, and conscientious legislator. In 1854 he was actively engaged in organizing the first lodge of the Sons of Temperance in Grafton, Illinois. He has been a member of the Masonic Fraternity since 1866. Mr. Thompson is liberal in his religious views. In politics, he is a Republican. He is frank and open-hearted, and is noted for his sarcasm, quickness at repartee, and for industry and uncommon tenacity of purpose. Of late years, he has speculated much in lands. His wife died, September 1, 1867, leaving one daughter, nine years of age.

**T**ILLOTSON, GEORGE J., Lumberman, Muskegon, Michigan, was born November 14, 1819, in Maroe, Saratoga County, New York. He is the son of David and S. Tillotson. His father purchased a farm on the Hudson River, four miles from Glenn's Falls, in Queensbury, Warren County, New York, and moved there in 1823. His education was imperfect, owing to limited advantages; the schools were at some distance from his home, and the feeble health of his father and elder brother, compelled him to labor at an early age. When he was twelve years old his father moved to Northumberland, Saratoga County, New York, where he remained three years. In 1834 the family returned to Warren County, where Mr. George Tillotson spent several years, working a farm in summer and driving a team during the winter. In 1838 his father removed to Glenn's Falls, New York, and engaged in the lumber business.

Two years later the mother died, and, the home being broken up, Mr. Tillotson engaged to work in a saw-mill. In 1846 he entered into partnership with Mr. Bronson, in a mill owned by Abraham Wing; at the close of two years he bought out his partner, and, for several years, carried on the business alone. The year 1857 was passed on a farm at Albion, Michigan. From the spring of 1858, until the year 1861, he took charge of a saw-mill, for Mr. Romaine, at Feeder Dam, two miles above Glenn's Falls, Saratoga County, New York. From this time until 1865, he was employed as foreman in the mills of Cherry & Arms, Glenn's Falls, New York. He then removed to Muskegon, Michigan, where he now resides. Mr. Tillotson spent eleven years as foreman in the saw-mill of L. G. Mason & Co.; he then went into the furniture business, having previously formed a partnership with his son-in-law, J. E. Montgomery. The following year he sold his interest to his son-in-law, hired the saw-mill known as the Esau Tarrant Mill, in Lakeside, on the south shore of Muskegon Lake, and is, at present, preparing to run this mill during the season, 1877. Mr. Tillotson is a Republican. He is a prominent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with which he has been identified since his settlement in Muskegon, and which he has served in various offices. He is now a trustee, steward, class-leader, and Sabbath School Superintendent. He was married, in 1842, to Martha Ann Norris, of Glenn's Falls. They have three children, all residents of Muskegon. Mr. Tillotson and his daughters, Mrs. Erwin and Mrs. J. E. Montgomery, are favorably known for their musical talent.

**T**OWER, HON. OSMOND, of Ionia, Michigan, late United States Marshal of the Western District of that State, was born at Cummington, Hampshire County, Massachusetts, February 16, 1811. He is the sixth in direct descent from John Tower, who, in 1639, emigrated from Hingham, England, to Hingham, New England. The names in the genealogical record are: John, born March 14, 1609; Benjamin, born November 5, 1654; Thomas, born June 27, 1693; Nathaniel, born March 13, 1719; Nathaniel, born October 14, 1744; Nathaniel, born December 6, 1772; and Osmond, the subject of this sketch, born February 16, 1811. His father moved, in 1780, from Hingham to Cummington, Massachusetts, where Osmond was born. Osmond was educated in the common schools and academies of his native town, until, early realizing the unprofitable results of the toil and labor incident to a farmer's life in that sterile region, he decided to leave home and try his fortunes in the West. With this end in view, in order to obtain the necessary funds, he went to work at the carpenter and joiner's trade for ten

dollars a month, and taught school in the winter at eleven dollars a month; until, at the age of twenty-three, he had accumulated a fortune of one hundred and seventy dollars. To most young men of the present day, this sum would barely suffice to purchase a respectable outfit of clothing; but to Osmond, taught lessons of frugality and economy on the rocky soil of a Massachusetts farm, it seemed not only enough to pay his own way to the golden regions of the West, but sufficient for two. Accordingly, he offered to share his fortune with Miss Martha Gallagher, of Albany County, New York, provided she would accompany him as his wife. This offer was accepted, and, on the 1st of September, 1834, they were married in Watervliet, Albany County, New York, at the residence of her guardian and friend, Dr. James Wade, a brother of Hon. B. F. Wade, of Ohio. Dr. Wade had adopted her on the death of her mother, soon after her arrival in this country from her native land, Ireland. Shortly after the ceremony, the young couple started out on their long and tedious journey to the West, rendered still more painful and difficult by an accident with which Mrs. Tower met in jumping from a wagon soon after their departure. This so disabled her that she could not walk for six months, and compelled the young husband often to carry her in his strong arms. They arrived at Detroit in November; and, finding that navigation had closed, concluded not to go farther that winter. Mr. Tower worked at his trade until that failed, on account of the coldness of the weather, when they moved to Farmington, and engaged board at one dollar and a half a week for both. When spring opened, Mr. Tower returned to Detroit, and worked at his former occupation there until fall; when, hearing glowing accounts of the Grand River Valley, he hired a horse and rode from Detroit to Ionia. He was obliged to swim his horse across the Grand River three times; twice at Lyons, and once near Thornapple. The village of Ionia then consisted of two log houses. Proceeding to the land office at Kalamazoo, Mr. Tower located one hundred and twenty acres of land near Ionia, and returned to Detroit, *via* Marshall, Jackson, and Ann Arbor. In the following spring, with his wife, he started for Ionia, and arrived there on the 25th of March, 1836, with seventy-five cents in his pocket, and a debt of one dollar and a half for board and lodging to a Mr. Dexter. He immediately secured work at his trade, on the first school-house built in the Grand River Valley; and, in a little time, was able to build a frame house for himself. This he afterwards sold, and immediately built another, in which he lived for thirty-four years, until he erected the magnificent residence in which he now lives. Soon after coming to Ionia, he spent some time on the land he had located in 1835, clearing and improving it. While thus engaged, he shot and killed a large bear within a few feet of his

door. He continued in the business of house-building at Ionia until 1844, when he engaged in the manufacture and sale of fanning-mills, which he carried on for twenty years. During this time, however, and since, he has been occupied in several lines of business,—being a member of the dry-goods house of J. S. Cooper & Co. for seven years; speculating extensively in real estate; manufacturing hot-air furnaces, in connection with the foundry and hardware business, and administering all with equal success. In the spring of 1850, enticed by the prospects which influenced so many about that time, Mr. Tower left Ionia for California; where, after a journey of great hardship and privations, he arrived July 28, exactly four months after he had started. He remained there only till February of the next year, when he returned home by way of Panama and New York. He reached Ionia the last of April, 1851, having realized little beyond that dearly bought experience which, in those days, fell to the lot of hundreds of others. While giving the closest attention to his business, Mr. Tower has also been called to take an active part in local and State politics, and has ever proved an able and faithful public servant. He was a Whig in opposition to Andrew Jackson; and, in 1835, attended the first meeting in the State for the purpose of organizing that party. In 1838 Mr. Tower received the Whig nomination for first Sheriff of Ionia County, but declined to become a candidate. In 1840 he was elected County Clerk by the same party. He has held the office of Supervisor of Ionia County several times, having been elected on the Republican ticket. In 1858 he was chosen to represent his district in the State Senate, and was re-elected in 1860. He has been identified with all local enterprises that tended to benefit the city of Ionia; and, at the organization of the Ionia and Lansing Railroad Company, was one of the principal stockholders; a Director, and the first Treasurer of the company. In March, 1863, he was appointed, by President Lincoln, first United States Marshal of the Western District of Michigan, and held that office about three years. The circumstances attendant upon his removal, by President Johnson, gained for Mr. Tower a far more than local reputation as a man of powerful will, and strong and decided character. A copy of the famous "Randall Circular," issued in 1866, was handed to him while confined to his bed by sickness. He read the document, and, calling for paper and pencil, immediately wrote, and sent to the press for publication, one of the most caustic and defiant replies that appeared during that exciting campaign. In order to illustrate Mr. Tower's character, we give the concluding portion of the letter, without comment. The *New York Tribune* headed the article, "Another Official Who Can Live Without Official Bread and Butter:

"As long as the Republican party is true to its prin-



ciples, I shall give it my influence, whether in office or out, and therefore shall not join any new party, or cross between treason and loyalty to be controlled by traitors and their sympathizers. At the Baltimore Convention, I voted for Hannibal Hamlin; and, at the election, I spent all the time and money I was able to elect Lincoln and Johnson. I have favored all measures to suppress the Rebellion, and preserve the Union; had three sons in the army, and paid my share of taxes and bounties. By virtue of New England energy and economy, I have been able to eat my own bread and butter, and have some left, not obtained through any office. If my actions and my sentiments, as above set forth, are not consistent with holding a Government office, I am ready to vacate any time my successor may be appointed, with only one request, which is, that as there are several sudden converts to this new organization, made so by the promise of my office, it shall be filled by an original, consistent copperhead. I can, in a measure, respect a straight-forward rebel or copperhead, but can do no other than abominate a political 'Judas' bartering away his faith, and covering himself with dishonor for an office.

I am, respectfully,

"OSMOND TOWER,

*"United States Marshal, Western District Michigan."*

Mr. Tower is now, and has been for many years, President of the Board of Education of Ionia, and has been officially connected with the public schools most of the time for forty years. His family consists of four sons, two of whom were Captains in the late Rebellion; the third was also a volunteer. The youngest, then thirteen years old, also wished to enlist as drummer-boy; but, while he was learning to drum, the war ended. Mr. Tower has, to a great extent, retired from active business; and, with his estimable wife, quietly enjoys the fruits of their early struggles. A man of powerful will, strong prejudices, and positive character; usually acting from impulse, he has made many warm friends, as well as bitter enemies. But even his enemies acknowledge that generally his impulses are good, his judgment correct, and his integrity unquestioned. He is a willing and generous friend, and a liberal contributor to all benevolent objects. He is possessed of strong religious convictions, being a member of the Universalist Church, and his moral character is above reproach.

**T**RAIN, JARVIS CLEMENT, of Lowell, Kent County, Michigan, was born in Tunbridge, Orange County, Vermont, July 8, 1834. He is the son of Sylvester and Lucinda (Willard) Train, who removed to Michigan in 1840, and settled in Boston, Ionia, County. His early youth was spent on his father's farm, in alternate work and study. On attaining his majority, he worked by the day for his father two years. In 1856 he married Elizabeth Warren; and, soon after, removed to Whiteside, Illinois, where he was a successful farmer ten years. In 1867 he returned to Michigan, and settled in Lowell, Kent County. After ten months of mercan-

tile life, he engaged in a general speculative business, which he has since carried on,—buying and selling farm products. He is an active member of the Independent Greenback party, which he joined in 1876, having been previously a Republican. Mr. Train, though shrewd and far-sighted in business, is generous, and has been closely connected with all public enterprises undertaken to advance the interests of Lowell. One large block in the village is a standing monument to his public spirit. Though an uncommonly hard worker in his township, and an enthusiastic supporter of his political principles, Mr. Train steadfastly declines to become a candidate for any public office. His connection with political movements is only of that nature which is consistent with the duties of the active business man and public-spirited citizen. From his earliest youth he has relied entirely on his own resources; and, by industry, diligence, and integrity, has acquired his present handsome competence; a character for unimpeachable honesty, and a reputation among his fellow-citizens of which he may justly be proud. He is a most deservedly popular man in Lowell, and his affability of demeanor levels all social distinctions. He is a warm and generous friend, and a liberal supporter of all public improvements.

**T**RUESDELL, LEVI, of Muskegon, Michigan, was born, November 4, 1815, at Warsaw, Genesee County, New York. His parents, Gideon R. and Polly (Banister) Truesdell, removed from Whitehall, New York, at an early day, to the Holland Purchase. The boy was brought up on a farm, but left home when he was eighteen, and engaged as clerk in a hotel, where he remained three years. Having saved seventy-five dollars, he began business in Portage, New York. He walked from Portage to Rochester and back,—one hundred miles,—to purchase his first stock of goods. From this small beginning, his trade increased until he had a profitable business. He remained there nineteen years, and then went to Muskegon. There, in 1855, the firm of Durkee, Truesdell & Co. began the manufacture of lumber. Before the year closed, he saw that a financial crash was coming; he sold his interest and returned to Portage, where he purchased his old establishment, and remained until 1867. At that time, he engaged in mercantile business at Muskegon. Soon after his arrival, all his property was destroyed by fire; but the smoke had scarcely cleared away from the ruins, before he began laying the foundation of a new store, in which he carried on the trade until 1872. He has recently again engaged in business at Muskegon, and is a partner, with his son, A. C. Truesdell, in the firm of Jacob Hetz & Co. He also deals largely in real estate. His youngest son, Frederick G. Truesdell, is cashier of the first Na-

tional Bank, at Allegan, Michigan. His daughter is the wife of Mr. Frank E. Mills, private banker, of Nunda, New York. While at Portage, Mr. Truesdell was, at different times, Supervisor, Town Clerk, Deputy Sheriff, and Postmaster. He received this last appointment under the administration of President Lincoln, and held the office until his removal to Muskegon. He was educated a Whig, and helped to organize the Republican party in Western New York. He married Mary A. Chaddock, January 19, 1839. They have three children,—two sons and a daughter.

TURNER, AARON B., of Grand Rapids, Michigan, was born in Plattsburg, Clinton County, New York, on the 27th of August, 1822. He was the son of Isaac Turner, an iron manufacturer and millwright, of that town. His educational advantages were limited to those of the common schools of that period; yet, as a student, he showed special aptitude in grammar and mathematics. In the spring of 1836 the family emigrated from Plattsburg to Grand Rapids, Michigan, then a small but rapidly growing village, which had been commenced three years before, on the basis of an Indian camping ground and missionary station. In the winter of 1837-8, Mr. Turner began learning the printer's trade, in the office of the *Grand River Times*, then just started, which was the first newspaper published in Western Michigan. During the six years which followed, he continued to work in that office. In 1843 Mr. Turner married a daughter of Captain Willard Sibley, also one of the pioneer settlers at Grand Rapids. They have three sons and six daughters, all of whom, except one son, are living. In 1844 he procured a hand-press and types for printing a Whig newspaper, the material arriving in time to print the election tickets for the Clay campaign. On the 25th of December of that year, he issued the first number of the *Grand River Eagle*, a weekly journal, the name of which he subsequently changed to the *Grand Rapids Eagle*. He has since remained its principal proprietor and editor. This journal was the first to raise the name of Zachary Taylor as Whig candidate for President; and vigorously advocated the principles, and supported the candidates, until the final defeat of the Whig party. Though an ardent Whig, Mr. Turner disapproved having the leadership of that party fall into the hands of the pro-slavery element, after the passage of the Fugitive Slave Law under the so-called compromise measures of President Fillmore's administration. Yet the *Eagle* supported heartily the nominations of the National Whig Convention of 1852, until the close of that campaign. Immediately after the defeat of the National Whig ticket, however, Mr. Turner placed at the head of his paper the declaration of a new

departure, in these words: "An Independent Democratic Journal," and thereupon began to advocate the abandonment of the Whig organization. This eventually culminated in the formal inauguration of the Republican party, at the Jackson (Michigan) Convention, in June, 1854. On the 22d of February of that year, the *Eagle* promptly supported the nomination of Kinsley S. Bingham for Governor; and, from that time, labored to procure the re-organization of parties which coalesced the following summer. On the accomplishment of this movement, Mr. Turner found himself and his journal, for the first time, on the side of the majority in his State. Publishing a newspaper in Western Michigan, prior to 1860, was no tempting speculation; and Mr. Turner, in his enterprise, often struggled against discouragements such as in these later days are rarely encountered. Nevertheless, in May, 1856, he began the daily issue of the *Grand Rapids Eagle*, and has continued it ever since. As a newspaper, the *Eagle* has been a fair success; and, in character and influence, takes position among the leading journals of the State. It is moral and elevated in tone, and independent in expression. Its proprietor and founder is the veteran journalist of Michigan, being the only editor in that State who founded and has controlled a newspaper for thirty-three years. Such measure of success as he has had, pecuniarily and otherwise, is the result of years of persistent labor and effort unknown in any other form of business. In 1863 his printing-office was totally destroyed by fire; but this misfortune caused only a brief suspension of the publication of his newspaper. In public life Mr. Turner has filled various positions. In the spring of 1850 he was elected the first Clerk of the city of Grand Rapids, Henry R. Williams being elected the first Mayor. In the first Republican Legislature of Michigan, organized in 1855, he was Journal Clerk to the House of Representatives; official reporter for the Senate in 1857, and Secretary of that body for the two terms of 1859 and 1861. In 1862 he was appointed, by President Lincoln, Collector of Internal Revenue for the Fourth District of Michigan, and organized the Internal Revenue service in that portion of the State. In 1866 he was removed by Andrew Johnson, because of his opposition to that President's policy. In 1869 he was appointed Postmaster of Grand Rapids, by President Grant, and was re-appointed in 1873. In his religious views, Mr. Turner inclines to the Universalist faith. He is independent in thought, and tenacious in his opinions; being in nowise influenced by policy or personal advantage to yield what he regards as vital issues. Socially, he is eminently companionable, with much aptitude for the enjoyment of all legitimate pleasures. He is fond of shooting and fishing, and has a keen appreciation of the beauties of nature and art, and also of the triumphs of mechanism which distinguish the present age of the world. He is of medium height,





Eng<sup>d</sup> by Geo E Perne, N York

*A D Turner*





rather thick set, broad-chested and muscular. The expression of his countenance is pleasing; his eyes blue, and his hair, from the effect of illness, is prematurely a silvery white. His health is robust, with unabated bodily and mental vigor. He is as earnest and enthusiastic in political affairs as in the days of his early manhood.

**V**AUGHN, JULIUS L., Dentist, of Muskegon, was born near Columbus, Chenango County, New York, October 21, 1834. He is the son of Ansel and Hannah Vaughn. After receiving a common-school education, he was apprenticed to the cabinet-maker's trade, and became an expert in the business. He was engaged in the piano store of Hayes, Laton & Co., in Norwich, until the fall of 1856. He then made his first journey West, and entered the office of Leonard Arnold, a prominent dentist. Under his teachings, Mr. Vaughn acquired skill in his profession. Soon after commencing the practice of dentistry, he made a tour through Illinois, working professionally, and making Mount Norris his head-quarters. After a year's experience, he settled for a time in Smyrna, New York, and then resumed his professional travels. From 1859 to 1862 he continued his work in this itinerant fashion, spending some months at Honesdale, Pennsylvania. In 1864 he removed to Grand Rapids, Michigan, working for a short time in Dr. Parker's office. In 1866 he settled permanently at Muskegon, where he practices his profession with marked success. Dr. Vaughn is widely and favorably known throughout the western part of the State as one of the leading dentists. He has been, for seven years, a member of the State Dental Association. He is an amateur singer of some note; good judges pronounce him the best tenor in the State. He has been connected with several musical societies, and has been leader of church choirs for years. He is at present the leader of the choir of the Congregational Church in Muskegon, where his services are highly appreciated. He married Cornelia Egglestone, of Norwich, New York, December 31, 1859. They have three children.

**V**AN DERVEEN, AREND, M. D., Physician and Surgeon, of Grand Haven, Michigan, was born in Amsterdam, Netherlands, September 13, 1840. His parents, Jacob and Maria Van Derveen, emigrated from their native land to Holland, Michigan, in the fall of 1847. Holland was at that time a wilderness, but has since risen to be a thriving city. The death of the father, two years after his arrival in America, left the family in straitened circumstances; but, by hard work and strict economy, the mother enabled her three sons

to gain a thorough classical education. Mr. Van Derveen received his first educational training in the city of Amsterdam,—the laws of that country requiring every child to attend school at the age of four. When he was fifteen, he commenced teaching, and taught three summers. In this way he obtained funds to carry on his education at college during the winter months. At the age of eighteen, he graduated from the classical course at the Holland Academy, and then commenced the study of medicine, under Doctors Wells, Marsh, Dowd, and Sutton. He remained with the latter three years, until the danger which threatened the Union called upon the nation's loyal sons to arm in her defense. Dr. Van Derveen enlisted in the 8th Michigan Infantry, September, 1861, and was promoted, in January, 1862, to the office of hospital steward. This appointment he filled until June, 1863, when he received a commission as Assistant Surgeon. He remained in that capacity until the close of the war, in 1865. He was actively engaged during the entire war, and participated in thirty-seven engagements. He had charge of the Third Division of the Ninth Corps of field hospitals, at Petersburg, Virginia, during the siege. At the close of the war, he went to New York City, and entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons, from which he graduated in March, 1866. He then removed to Grand Haven, Michigan, where he now resides. He is a Democrat; and was elected Alderman when Grand Haven first became a city. He is City Physician at the present time. He married, on the 16th of September, 1869, Kate E. Howard, daughter of Hon. M. D. Howard. Doctor Van Derveen is undoubtedly the most popular physician in Grand Haven. His extensive and constantly increasing practice proves that his ability is highly appreciated by his fellow-citizens.

**V**AN RAALTE, REV. ALBERTUS CHRISTIAN, D. D., of Holland, was born October 17, 1811, in Wanneperveen, Netherlands. He was the youngest of three brothers, all of whom were educated for the ministry. The two oldest died before they had begun to preach. At the age of nineteen, Mr. Van Raalte, having previously taken a medical course, graduated, first in his class, from the Theological Department of Leyden University. He was a very close student, even to the exhaustion of his physical powers. After leaving school, he engaged in the ministry in his native country, where he labored incessantly for fifteen years. During this time, he deeply felt the oppressions then existing in the National Church, and was the first to proclaim a gospel untrammelled by State authority; for this he was subject to frequent fines and impressments. Seeing the almost fatal results of an over-populated country, he was led to seek a home in the New World. In the fall of 1846,

with six families, he sailed for America. Arrived in New York, he pushed westward, and reached Detroit, December 31, 1846. After remaining there about two years, he left his family in the care of Judge Kellogg, and went to Allegan. His next step was to decide upon a site for the colony about to be formed. This was finally located at Holland, and here he again commenced his ministerial labors. The colony, numbering about forty families, was organized in the spring of 1847. The grounds had been located by Mr. Kellogg and a few others, but the chief responsibility fell upon Mr. Van Raalte. In 1848 he platted and laid out the village. His first thought was to provide for a church and schools; and to him the people of Michigan are indebted for Hope College. He not only contributed liberally himself,—giving fifteen acres in the heart of the city, on which the college stands, and another plot of sixty acres within the city limits,—but he also solicited aid from Eastern churches, and obtained many private subscriptions. He was the first President of the college. Mr. Van Raalte was instrumental in bringing to the notice of the Government the necessity for opening the harbor at Holland. He wrote to President Polk on the subject, thus procuring a survey and a small appropriation. This was not sufficient, however, and the new administration refused further aid. Nothing daunted, he solicited private subscriptions, and a grant of swamp lands from the State, and pushed the work forward until the General Government allowed such further appropriations as sufficed for a permanent harbor. He was a worthy member of the Dutch Reformed Church, and ministered to its wants, both spiritually and temporally, for over forty-five years. He was an earnest Christian, a worthy minister, a trusted friend, and an affectionate father. He married Christina Johanna De Moen. He died November 7, 1876.

**V**ERPLANKE, JOOS, Sheriff of Ottawa County, Michigan, was born in 1844, in the province of Zealand, in the Netherlands, Europe. He emigrated with his parents to America in 1849, and settled in Holland, Michigan. After leaving school he learned the shoemaker's trade. In 1862 he enlisted in the 25th Michigan Infantry, and participated in most of the great battles fought during the war. He was honorably discharged in 1865. Soon after, he engaged as a sailor on the lakes, and continued that occupation upwards of seven years. In 1872 he was elected Marshal, in the city of Holland, and served in that capacity about four years. In 1876 he was elected Sheriff of Ottawa County, and removed to the city of Grand Haven, where he now resides. In politics, Mr. Verplanke is a Democrat. He

is a member of the Dutch Reformed Church. He was married, December 18, 1866, to Miss ———, of Holland; their family consists of four sons. Mr. Verplanke is an honest, upright man, and ranks as one of Grand Haven's prominent citizens.

**V**OIGT, CARL G. A., Merchant, Grand Rapids, was born in the year 1833, in Wennungen, province of Saxony, Prussia. His father, A. A. Voigt, was a baker and confectioner of the place. His mother's maiden name was Johanna Schegel. Soon after the birth of Carl Voigt, his parents removed to Mucheln, where he attended the public schools. When he was thirteen years of age, his father sailed for the United States, arriving in New York in September, 1847. As the prospects farther west appeared brighter, the family went to Chicago. Not satisfied there, they went on to Michigan City, Indiana, where the father purchased eighty acres of land. He immediately began its cultivation, and, in a few years, had as fine a farm as could be found in that section of country. Carl Voigt, having a distaste for farming, entered a store, where, for ten years, he served as clerk. For the first year's service, he received six dollars per month and board; for the last year's, one thousand dollars. In 1865 he opened a store of his own in Michigan City; and, during the same year, took W. G. Herpolsheimer as partner. In this business they were very successful, owing to fair dealing, strict attention to business, and careful economy. In 1870 they started a branch house in Grand Rapids, Michigan, where Mr. Herpolsheimer removed to take charge of the business. This increased to such an extent that, instead of being a branch, it soon became the central business house of the firm. Mr. Voigt remained at Michigan City until 1875, when he associated himself, in partnership with S. Mangold and C. Kusterer, in the Star Mills, of Grand Rapids, in which city he has since resided. He was reared in the Lutheran faith, and was a member of that church until his removal to Grand Rapids. When twenty-one years old, he became a member of the Masonic Fraternity, and is now a Master Mason. During his residence in Michigan City, he was Secretary of Lodge No. 83 for six years. Mr. Voigt was a member of the Board of Education and City Treasurer of Michigan City. He married, on the 23d of December, 1860, Miss Elizabeth Wooster, youngest daughter of Conrad Wooster. They have a family of five children,—Frank, Clara, Emma, Amanda, and Carl. Mr. Voigt is a strict business man, honorable in all his dealings. He is a reliable counselor, and is respected by the entire community. He is one of the purely self-made men of the State of Michigan.







Eng<sup>d</sup> Geo. R. Perine, N. York

*Geo N White*



**W**HITE, HON. GEORGE H., Grand Rapids, Michigan, was born at Dresden, Yates County, New York, September 9, 1822. His father, Joseph White, a mechanic and farmer, and his mother, Lucy (Rowley) White, born near Watkins, at the head of Seneca Lake, were the parents of five children. But two of these, William B. and the oldest son, George H. White, are now living. Mr. White attended the schools of his native town until he reached his thirteenth year, when he went with his grandfather, Ezra Rowley, to Fountain County, Indiana. There he worked one year on his grandfather's farm; and, in 1836, entered as junior clerk a store at Portland, in the same county. A year later, he went to Covington, the county-seat, and was a clerk there until 1842, when he removed to Grand Rapids, Michigan. He arrived on the 2d of May, and at once obtained a position in the store of A. & G. B. Rathbun, where he remained till 1844. In that year, he was elected Register of Deeds of Kent County, and held the office, performing its duties satisfactorily, for two years. While thus engaged, he was also a silent partner of Amos Rathbun, in the dry-goods trade. Subsequently, having engaged, with his partner, in the lumber business, he conducted a store, for five years, at Rockford, Kent County, a village about twelve miles from Grand Rapids. He then returned to Grand Rapids, but, until 1865, did not dispose of his interests at Rockford, nor sever his connection with Mr. Rathbun. Soon after his return, he officiated one term on the Board of Supervisors of Kent County. In the spring of 1861, he was made Mayor of the city, and re-elected in 1862. In the fall of the same year, he was chosen Representative for the Grand Rapids District to the State Legislature, and served two years. In 1863, in connection with William T. Powers, he engaged in the manufacture of lumber at Rouge River and Grand Rapids. For three years they did a successful business, and then dissolved the partnership. In 1865 Mr. White, with Amos Rathbun and Alfred D. Rathbone, under the firm name of George H. White & Co., purchased what is known as the "Old Plaster Mill," and, in connection with it, four hundred and twenty-five acres of land. This mill is located near the southern limit of Grand Rapids, and was the first of the kind ever erected in the State. It is used for crushing and grinding the well-known Grand Rapids gypsum; which, when ground, is a valuable fertilizer of clay and sandy soils. Mr. White is a stockholder in the Grand Rapids and Indiana Railroad Company; and, having been elected one of its Directors in 1867, has devoted much of his time to its interests. He also became a member of the Continental Improvement Company, through whose efforts the road was completed from Fort Wayne, Indiana, to Little Traverse Bay, in Northern Michigan. In partnership with Amos Rathbun, he built, in the city of Grand Rapids, nine stores on Monroe street, and, in 1874, one-third of the Aldrich, Godfrey & White block, on the same

street. This is one of the finest buildings in the city, being one hundred and twenty-two feet front, by one hundred and twelve feet deep, and four stories high above the basement. The walls of the basement are built of stone, and the apartments are finished, as well as those above, in the best style for business offices. Mr. White is also a large dealer in real estate, and one of the owners of Godfrey & White's addition in the southern part of the city. Mr. White has been a member of the Masonic Fraternity since 1861. He has been an Odd-Fellow since 1848, and is a charter-member of the eleventh lodge organized in Michigan. He is also a Knight of Pythias. His religious views are liberal, inclining to Universalism; but his family are regular attendants at St. Mark's Episcopal Church. He was a Whig until the dissolution of that party, when he became a Democrat. On December 12, 1853, he married, at Rockford, Kent County, Michigan, Miss Sarah A. Hetfield, of Covington, Fountain County, Indiana. From this union have been born two daughters,—Miss Georgiana Rathbun and Hattie Hetfield White. At all times ready to forward the public interests, and those improvements by which the city of Grand Rapids has reached its present importance, he has performed the duties of a public-spirited citizen. The business life of Mr. White has been remarkably prosperous. As a youth he was dependent entirely upon his own exertions. With no capital but that which, by careful saving and self-denial, he acquired during his minority, he has by his intelligence and determination attained a position of independence and prominence among the self-made men of Michigan. He has risen at the expense of no man, but by treating all as he would be treated himself. While winning wealth, position, and influence, at the same time he has gained the esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens.

**W**EBBER, SAMUEL W., Banker and Capitalist, of Muir, Ionia County, was born in Newbury, Vermont, May 25, 1823. His parents, Andrew J. and Sophie (Wilkins) Webber, were both descended from early settlers in Vermont. His father was engaged in farming, and, when Mr. Samuel W. Webber was four years old, moved from Vermont to Steuben County, New York. Samuel was one of a family of six brothers, and, until he was twenty-three years old, spent his time in farm work, and in attending the common school in winter. In 1846 he was enabled, by running a little in debt, to buy his father's farm. In the same year, June 27, he married Miss Marietta Bowen, who, after sharing his burdens until April 2, 1859, died, leaving two sons. After spending a year in mercantile business, in Steuben County, Mr. Webber sold his land, and, with his

family, joined the great tide of Western emigration. He had never visited that part of the country, but, attracted by the glowing accounts of the Grand River Valley, decided to settle in Portland, Ionia County. There he located some new land, and spent four years in bringing it under cultivation. This he considered the hardest work of his life. During this time occurred his wife's death. Shortly after, he sold his Portland farm, and, in 1859, moved to the village of Lyons, and engaged in general mercantile business. He soon bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which he cultivated in connection with his other occupations. By subsequent purchase, this farm has been increased to five hundred acres. In 1868, in partnership with his brother, George W. Webber, he opened a private bank in Muir. This partnership continued four years, when Mr. S. W. Webber bought his brother's interest. The next year he purchased a controlling interest in the First National Bank at Muir, with which he has since been connected as President. He still cultivates his farm in Lyons, and spends much of his time there in summer. Although he is a successful business man, he experiences keen delight in attending to his farm labors. At Lyons, in June, 1861, he married Marian N. Bowen, sister of his first wife. They have one son, who is now ten years old. The eldest son, George B. Webber, died in 1871, at the age of twenty-four; he was, at that time, cashier of the bank. His second son, William A. Webber, is now twenty-five years old, and is engaged in the bank with his father. Mr. Webber professes no form of religious belief, although he is a liberal supporter of churches of every denomination. He has invariably and consistently avoided the responsibilities of public life, declining to become a candidate for any official position. He is a man of medium height, kindly expression, and shrewd, penetrating gaze. He is universally respected and esteemed.

**W**EEED, DR. EVERETT D., of Grand Haven, Michigan, was born in Laporte County, Indiana, September 29, 1846. He was the son of Enos and Martha J. (Waite) Weed. His grandfather, Lewis Weed, married, when he was eighteen years old, Esther Stebbins, who was a year younger. They brought up a family of seventeen children, fourteen of whom lived until the youngest was thirty-two years old. In 1837 they emigrated West, where they lived to an advanced age. Dr. Weed attended the district school until he was fifteen, and afterwards studied two terms at the Methodist Collegiate Institute, at New Carlisle, Indiana. In 1864, being then only seventeen, he enlisted in the 128th Regiment of Indiana Volunteer Infantry; and was, for many months, constantly engaged in skir-

ishing under Sherman, against Hood and Johnston. He served acceptably at Marietta, Georgia, as hospital steward until his eighteenth birthday, when he received a furlough, enabling him to go home. On his return, he taught a district school for several terms, and devoted his leisure time to the study of medicine. In 1868 he entered into the drug business at New Buffalo, Michigan. He continued his studies, and accompanied his preceptor on professional visits. In the winter of 1870 and 1871 he attended a course of lectures at Rush Medical College, and graduated with honor at the Detroit Homeopathic College in 1874. He had, meanwhile, left New Buffalo, and commenced the practice of his profession at Dowagiac. There he became very successful, and remained until 1877, when he removed to Grand Haven. Dr. Weed is a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is a man of strong intellect, and possesses a social, genial nature. His conversation abounds in ready wit and inexhaustible humor. By ability and industry, he has already secured, in Grand Haven, a position which promises him a wide sphere of usefulness. Dr. Weed has determined to remove from Grand Haven to Detroit, Michigan, where he will enter upon the practice of his profession.

**W**EBSTER, JAMES M., of Portland, Ionia County, Michigan, was born in Rush, Monroe County, New York, December 9, 1822. His parents, Ira and Amelia (Morse) Webster, were married in 1821, and emigrated to New York from Connecticut. His mother died when he was six months old, and her place was supplied to him by Derna (Welch) Morse, whom his father married in August, 1823. She has been a kind and faithful mother, and is still living in Portland, in her seventy-eighth year. Ira Webster was successfully engaged in milling and mercantile business in New York State until 1837, when he moved to Michigan. He there settled on twelve hundred and eighty acres of land which he had purchased in Ionia County, embracing sections ten, eleven, fourteen, fifteen and sixteen. He built on the southern half of section ten, in what is now Portland Township. James M. Webster was an only child. He received the ordinary advantages of a common-school education in New York; and, after having been seven years in Michigan, attended the academy at East Henrietta, New York, for one year. While his father lived, James M. assisted him on the farm, and afterwards carried on the work till five hundred and sixty acres of the land were cleared. He spent three years, from the spring of 1860 to 1863, in California. He has been engaged, at intervals, in various mercantile pursuits; always, however, returning to his farm, on which he still spends the greater part of his time. He was in



partnership with William Spear nine months; with W. W. Bogue three months; and, for one year, conducted the same business alone. For five years he has been one of the firm of Smith, Benedict & Webster, who manufacture church and school furniture, on the west side of Grand River, at Portland. He has repeatedly held the offices of Township Treasurer and Highway Commissioner; and, in 1859, was one of the appraisers of the Detroit and Milwaukee Railroad. He was initiated into the Masonic Fraternity in 1866, and has held all the important offices in the Lodge and Commandery. He is also a Knight Templar. In 1869 he was commissioned First Lieutenant in an independent company, and became attached to the 27th Michigan Infantry. He cast his first vote for Martin Van Buren, and has always been a Democrat. He is connected with no particular religious organization, but contributes freely to the support of all. He believes that the principles underlying honesty, sobriety, and morality are independent of any special dogma or creed. Mr. Webster married, June 23, 1869, Mary E. Bailey, of Portland. They have four children. Few men are better known or more generally respected in the community than James M. Webster.

**WHITE, THOMAS STEWART**, of Grand Haven, Michigan, was born at Grand Haven, June 28, 1840. His parents, Thomas W. and Caroline (Morton) White, were natives of New England. In 1859, after leaving school, he entered the banking house of Ferry & Son, where he served as clerk for three years. Finding that the confinement injured his health, he secured a position, in 1863, as shipping clerk with Gray, Phelps & Co., of Chicago. Two years later, he again entered Ferry & Son's bank, as cashier. In 1867 he and Heber Squire formed the firm of Squire & White, tug owners, general contractors, and ship builders. He suggested the idea of a barge line for transporting freight between Chicago and the east shore of Lake Michigan; and founded the firm of Kirby, Furlong & Co., which established the line of Kirby barges. In 1869 he disposed of his interest in this business, and became associated with Thomas Friant, under the firm name of White & Friant, lumbermen and log-runners. All logs sawed at the mouth of the Grand River passed through their hands, and were delivered to the different mills. At the same time, Mr. White became connected with J. M. Avery, at Grand Rapids, in a saw-mill. This firm was merged into that of Robinson, Solomon & Co., manufacturers of rough and dressed lumber, sashes, doors, blinds, etc. Mr. White saw the urgent necessity for a fire department in Grand Haven; and, with his accustomed energy, started one in 1869, which, at the end of two years, was second to none in the State

in efficiency and appointments. On the organization of the First National Bank, in 1871, he was chosen one of its Directors. In 1872 he was elected Director of the Wait Manufacturing Company, of which he was afterwards made Secretary and Treasurer. Mr. White was educated a Presbyterian, and has, for years, been an active supporter of the First Presbyterian Church, of Grand Haven. Although not a member of the Church, he is an observer of the obligations that give stability and value to the best interests of the community. He married, April 20, 1870, Mary E. Daniel, of Milwaukee. They have two children. Mr. White is an unassuming man with shrewd business talents. He is liberal to all worthy charities. Many, who are now prosperous business men, have received from him encouragement and material assistance. Thorough attention to the minutest details of his various financial enterprises has been one of the strongest elements of his success.

**WOODWORTH, HON. W. H.**, Judge of Probate for Ionia County, was born in Dorchester, Grafton County, New Hampshire, January 14, 1828. His parents, George and Louisa H. Woodworth, were old residents of New Hampshire. Mr. William H. Woodworth was the second of a family of twelve children; and, until he was twelve years old, had the educational advantages afforded by the common schools of New Hampshire forty years ago. At that age, he commenced work as bobbin-boy in the Stark Mills, in Manchester, New Hampshire. He remained there until he was nineteen, when he went to Salmon Falls, New Hampshire, to assist in starting some new cotton machinery. He continued to work in this place until he was twenty-five years of age, the last two years acting as overseer of a weaving-room employing one hundred and twenty operatives. In 1853, finding the cotton factory a too limited sphere for life, he removed to Vermont, and spent a year in farming. Early in 1855 he started on a prospecting trip in the West; and, in May of that year, located in Portland, Ionia County, Michigan. In the fall of 1856, he removed to Lyons, in the same county, where he now resides. He has been engaged in various business enterprises, principally in the manufacture of hard-wood lumber and in farming, and has usually been successful. In the year 1859, he was elected Justice of the Peace for Ionia County, holding the office for one term, of four years. When his term expired, he declined to accept the renomination. In 1866 he was elected Supervisor, and was re-elected for six consecutive years. In 1872 he was elected Probate Judge of Ionia County, and was again elected in 1876, holding the office up to the present time. During his residence at Salmon Falls, he united with the Congre-

gational Church; but, as there is no organization of that society in his vicinity, he has been connected with the Presbyterian Church, since his removal to Michigan. In 1865 he was a member of the General Assembly, at Brooklyn, New York, as Commissioner from the Presbytery of Grand Rapids. In politics, he has been associated, first, with the Whig, and, since its organization, with the Republican, party; first exercising his right of franchise, in 1852, in favor of General Scott. In 1849 he married Miss Caroline M. Balch, daughter of Aden Balch, of Lunenburg, Vermont. They have had three children, of whom only one, a son, survives. Mr. Woodworth is a man of plain, unpretending demeanor, and unassuming manners; he is courteous to all. Few have so well merited the respect and confidence of their fellow-citizens, and are so deservedly popular. He discharges his duties with energy and fidelity, and is a man of acknowledged substantial acquirements, and irreproachable character.

**W**INSOR, ZENAS G., Merchant, of Grand Haven, Ottawa County, was born in Skaneateles, New York, December 14, 1814, and is the oldest son of Darius and Sallie Winsor, natives of Smithfield, Rhode Island. They moved to Ionia, Michigan, in the spring of 1833, and died at Grand Rapids in 1855. Mr. Winsor received a fair education in the English branches. In 1830 his father, who was engaged in the lumber business near Syracuse, New York, lost, by fire, mills and lumber valued at over fifty thousand dollars. By this misfortune he became bankrupt; and, for two years, under the then supposed humane laws of the State of New York, broken in spirits and health, was imprisoned for debts which he was unable to pay. The support of the family, including five young children, then devolved upon Zenas G. Winsor and a younger brother. In those early trials his strength and firmness were matured. He immediately left school, and worked as clerk in a store, and as assistant to a physician, during the fearful cholera season of 1832. The following spring, with a party of sixty-three persons from Herkimer and Oneida counties, the family removed to Michigan. They left the steamer at Detroit, and, with horse and ox teams, started for Grand River. The last sixty miles of their route was an untried road through heavily timbered lands in the counties of Shiawassee, Clinton, and Ionia. After a journey of fourteen days, they reached the place on which Ionia now stands, and found it occupied by Indians with their bark wigwams and corn-fields. These, furnishing the much-needed shelter and food, they purchased from the Indians, and regarded as a God-send. This was the first white settlement below Jackson, on or near Grand River,—where, at the present time,

there are not less than two hundred and fifty thousand inhabitants. In the spring of 1834, Mr. Winsor was engaged by Mr. Rix Robinson, in the interest of the American Fur Company, to take charge of their Indian trading-post at the mouth of Grand River. There he was surrounded only by Indians and French loggers, and was forced to conform largely to their habits and customs,—not seeing any one for six months who could speak English. The following year, Mr. Robinson, with his usual sagacity, recognized the opening for trade among the Indians, and the whites who were fast settling in Grand Rapids, and proposed to furnish a stock of goods on condition that Mr. Winsor, then under twenty-one years of age, would transact the business and share the profits equally. In furtherance of this plan, Mr. Winsor, bearing a letter of credit from Mr. Robinson to John Jacob Astor, President of the American Fur Company, proceeded to New York. Mr. Astor, while willing to furnish goods suited to the needs of the whites, declined to give any that would conflict with the Indian trade on Grand River. Mr. Winsor, declining a partial stock, retired, and resigned his position with Mr. Robinson. In 1836, a Government Land Office being established at Ionia, Mr. Winsor, in connection with Edward P. Macy, of New York, opened a banking and exchange office. They carried this on until the issuing of the Specie Circular at Washington, requiring all lands to be paid for in specie; and, in the short period of about four months, netted ten thousand dollars. This was Mr. Winsor's first marked pecuniary success. The following four years were spent in improving a large farm and in selling goods. Mr. Winsor was married in 1838, and removed to Grand Rapids in 1840, where he engaged in the manufacture of pails, tubs, sashes, blinds, etc. Selling this establishment in 1844, he opened a store, with a younger brother, Jacob W. Winsor. They dealt in merchandise; manufactured lumber on Reuge and Flat rivers; and had a lumber-yard in Kenosha, Wisconsin. In the summer of 1851, he closed his business, and, in the fall, went to California. He spent about two years traveling in California, Mexico, and South America. On returning to Grand Rapids, he engaged with Daniel Ball in organizing and running steamboats on Grand River. He abandoned this in 1859, and, going to Pennsylvania, became President and Manager of the Tioga County Bank. In 1860 he returned to Grand Rapids, and engaged in the sale of dry goods until 1863. Having a large investment in Nevada silver mines, he sold his establishment, and went to that Territory. After remaining three months, he discovered that his investment of thirty thousand dollars was irrevocably lost. He then returned to New York City, operated moderately in stock, and purchased and shipped goods to resell to merchants in Grand Rapids. In 1866 Mr. Winsor went to Petrolea, Canada, where he engaged





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*J. D. W. W. W.*









*Albert Williams*

T. W. A. L. M. H.

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in opening and operating oil wells, purchasing and selling oil. In 1868 he entered upon the mercantile, forwarding, and commission business, in Grand Haven, Michigan, where he has since resided. He is sixty-three years of age, and enjoys perfect health, his life having been most abstemious. He has never drank liquor in any form, smoked tobacco nor joined in a dance, either public or private.

**WINCHELL, HON. JEROME**, Editor and Publisher of *The Republic*, Plainwell, Michigan, was born near the present village of Kingsbury, LaPorte County, Indiana, June 8, 1846. He is the son of Jesse H. and Lucy F. Winchell. His father early moved to the Territory of Wisconsin; and, two years later, to Minnesota, then an unbroken wilderness, inhabited by Indians. There were no schools in the vicinity; but at the age of sixteen, Mr. Winchell, by careful study at home, had prepared himself for teaching. He alternated that employment with frequent terms at the nearest academy; and, finally, at the Methodist school, Hamline University. At the age of twenty, he entered the office of the Freeborn County *Standard*, as local editor, and acquired a knowledge of printing. He also spent several years in St. Paul and Chicago offices. In 1871 he removed to Michigan, and established *The Republic* at Plainwell, Allegan County, his present home. In 1873 he married Miss I. Evelyn Still, daughter of Major Wm. Still, the first settler, and one of the substantial citizens of the village. Mr. Winchell has been closely identified with many of the public improvements of Plainwell. He was one of the originators of the Union Agricultural and Industrial Society, and has been, for several years past, its Secretary. In the fall of 1876, as Republican candidate, he was elected to represent the eastern district of Allegan County in the Lower House of the State Legislature, receiving a large majority of votes over a very popular opponent.

**WILLSON, JAMES B.**, Lawyer and Circuit Court Commissioner, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, was born, October 14, 1823, at Chagrin, now Willoughby, Lake County, Ohio. He was the only son of Samuel and Sarah M. Willson. He pursued his preparatory studies in Cleveland, Ohio, and graduated from the Western Reserve College, in 1846. He studied law in the law school at Yale College, and, in 1848, was admitted to the bar at Akron, Summit County, Ohio. In that place, he at once commenced practice, in which he was actively engaged until 1859. He then removed to Grand Rapids, Michigan, where he has

since remained. In 1870 he was first elected Circuit Court Commissioner, and has held the office continuously since that time. He is a member of the Congregational Church; and, for the last three or four years, has been one of its deacons. In politics, he is identified with the Republican party. Mr. Willson ranks among the ablest and most reliable lawyers of Western Michigan; his reputation resting chiefly upon his sound knowledge, and generally correct application, of the common law. As a citizen, he is held in high esteem. In social and domestic life, he is a genial companion and a courteous gentleman; in business transactions, he is scrupulously honest and honorable; in all respects, his character stands high with those who know him. Mr. Willson married, January 10, 1849, Charlotte O. Booth. They have two sons,—Theodore B. and Arthur H. Willson.

**WILLIAMS, HON. ALBERT**, of Ionia, was born in the town of Halifax, Windham County, Vermont, February 8, 1817. Many of his relatives, particularly on his father's side, have gained distinction for integrity, energy, and ability. Indeed, so far as is known, no one of them has fallen below good character, ordinary intelligence, and success. His great-grandfather, William Williams, was a native of Wales. He came to America, and settled at Stonington, Connecticut, at an early period of life, where his three children,—William, Henry, and Elizabeth,—were born. He was a man of courage and adventure. He became a sea-captain; and, with his oldest son William, was reported to have perished at sea by shipwreck. It was gravely suspected, however, that they were victims of a mutinous crew. Rev. Henry Williams, the grandfather of Albert, was born in 1746. He graduated at Yale College, Connecticut; became a Congregational minister, and was the first ordained pastor of the Congregational Church of the town of Leverett, Massachusetts, where he died November 20, 1811, aged sixty-six years. He was eminent for his talents and piety. He was twice married; the second time, to Miss Susanna Stowell, a lady of rare ability, dignity, and excellence of character. Of these marriages were born six children, viz: Nathan, of the first, and Avery, Henry, Sally, Susanna, and Eliza, of the second. Nathan became a merchant; Avery graduated at Dartmouth College, Massachusetts, entered upon the ministry, and became an able and eloquent Congregational preacher. Sally and Susanna married good business men; and Eliza, losing her first husband, Mr. Farnham, a lawyer, married Rev. Samuel Leonard, a Presbyterian minister. Both of these sisters are now living at West Monroe, New York; the other children are dead. Dr. Henry Williams, the father of

Albert, was born in Leverett, in 1786. He received a good classical education, and became an excellent physician and surgeon. He was a studious man, and was distinguished for his moral and Christian character. He not only wrote and published poetry, but he composed and delivered a number of public addresses on temperance, medicine, history, politics, and other important subjects. He was an Assistant Surgeon in a Vermont regiment during the greater part of the War of 1812. June 14, 1808, he married Miss Judith Corkins. They had eight children,—Henry, Avery, Nathan, Eliza, Albert, Henry, Sally, and Bertrand. Dr. Henry Williams was living in Halifax, Vermont, when Albert was born. From that place, he removed to New Berlin, Chenango County, New York, in the fall of 1827, and remained until the autumn of 1830. He then removed to Norwich, in the same county; thence to Solon, Cortland County, New York, in the spring of 1831; in 1834 he removed to West Monroe, Oswego County, New York, where he died, April 16, 1843, aged almost fifty-seven years. Of his children, only Avery, a farmer in New Berlin, Eliza, the wife of James G. Caldwell, of West Monroe, and Albert are now living. Nathan was well educated. He became an excellent physician and surgeon, and practiced several years at Central Square and Phoenix, Oswego County, New York. He finally settled in Ionia, Michigan, early in 1855, where he died April 25, 1858, aged nearly forty-five years, leaving only a widow. His son and only child died in early childhood. Nathan closely resembled his father in character, study, manner of speaking, and love of his profession. He was engaged in the Canadian Patriot War of 1837, and was with Colonel Von Shultz and his brave band at the battle of Windmill Point. He served as surgeon, and was one of the fortunate few who, after the battle and surrender, escaped across the St. Lawrence River to the American shore. Henry, the first child, died when about two years old; Sally died in her eighteenth year; and Henry, the sixth child, and Bertrand, each when about eleven years old. Dr. Avery Williams, of Buffalo, New York, and Rev. Dr. Ezra Fisk, of Greencastle, Indiana, both men of talent and distinction, are cousins of Albert on his father's side. On the maternal side, the ancestors of Albert are also from Wales, and settled in Massachusetts. As a class, they have been farmers, noted for industry, thrift, and solid character. His grandfather, Caleb Corkins, was a soldier in the Revolution of '76, in which he fought for American independence. He had eight children, of whom Judith, the mother of Albert, was the fifth. She was born in 1786, and died November 7, 1877. Her home, the last few years of her life, was at the house of her son-in-law, Mr. Caldwell, in West Monroe. Through her whole life, she was known as a lady of sterling sense, possessing all the virtues that adorn womanhood. Albert's

home was always at his father's house while the latter lived; though the greater part of the time, after early childhood, was spent away in working out, attending school, teaching, and reading law. Several years were spent in the academies of Homer and Mexicoville, New York. In April, 1844, he came to Michigan. His father, through misplaced confidence and the dishonesty of pretended friends, was twice reduced to poverty, and was never able to materially aid Albert in his efforts. Mr. Williams spent his first year, in Michigan, in the law office of Hon. R. McClelland and Judge W. Wing, of the city of Monroe. In that place, April 14, 1845, he was admitted to the bar, as an attorney and counselor-at-law, in all the courts of the State; and, since then, to the United States Courts. He at once removed to Ionia County, where he has ever continued the practice of his profession, save one year, from May, 1851, to May, 1852, which he spent at Grand Rapids. The first six years in Ionia County, he lived in Otisco, but in May, 1852, his home was permanently established in Ionia. From early in 1847 to 1851, he was Prosecuting Attorney of Ionia County. Although Mr. Williams was always a strong anti-slavery man, he acted with the Democratic party until the spring of 1854; he was, however, a prominent opposer of the compromise measures of 1850. During the years of 1853-54, he was the Acting County Clerk of Ionia County, and performed alone all the labors of that office. Mr. Williams was the only man who went from Ionia County to attend the mass-meeting at Jackson, Michigan, July 4, 1854. This meeting was held for the purpose of organizing a new party, which should be unequivocally opposed to the extension of slavery into the Federal Territories, and pledged to pure, equal, and just government. He was a member of the Committee on Resolutions, and also of the committee which presented to the meeting the first Republican State ticket ever voted in Michigan. He was the author of the first elaborate Republican address printed and circulated in the State, which, by many speakers and papers, was that year largely used as a text document. He led in the organization of that party in the counties of Ionia and Montcalm, drafting all necessary papers and notices for their meetings and conventions. In the spring of 1855, he was the leader in establishing the first Republican paper published in Ionia County, and was for several months its sole editor. In a word, his services to the Republican party, through his pen and on the stump, were of great value; they have been fitly acknowledged, and will long be remembered by the people in that section of the State. In the fall of 1854, he was elected County Treasurer on the Republican ticket, and was re-elected in 1856, holding the office four years. In 1860 he was elected Prosecuting Attorney of the county; in 1862 Attorney-General of the State, and was re-elected in 1864, filling that office four years. In 1870 Mr.



Williams, losing confidence in the integrity of the Republican party, and believing its usefulness was gone, became identified with the National Prohibition Reform party, with which he has since acted. In that year, he was the candidate, on its ticket, for Prosecuting Attorney, and thoroughly stumped the county in its interests. Ionia County gave as large a vote for the Prohibition ticket as any county in the State. He was the candidate of this party, in the spring of 1871, for Associate Justice of the Supreme Court. In 1874 he was their candidate for the office of Attorney-General, and made speeches in a large number of the great towns and cities of the State; these speeches were mentioned by the press as unusually clear, able, and eloquent. The one delivered at Charlotte,—which was printed and widely circulated,—is, in the respects named, not often equaled by our leading public men. In 1876 he was the candidate of the same party for Governor. Two of his speeches, delivered in this campaign, one at Saranac and the other at Ionia,—afterwards printed and circulated,—were remarked for their subject-matter, logic, finish, and interest, by very many of the scholars and politicians of the country. Indeed, it is safe to say, that the three speeches mentioned will stand prominent among their kind, as proud pillars on the great road leading to a higher and better civilization, years after their author has passed away. Mr. Williams stands well as an able and safe lawyer, and has never wanted for business. As a tax-title lawyer, he has few equals. In the course of his practice, he has had occasion to argue a number of causes before the Supreme Court of the State, usually alone. The attorney who stands higher in the esteem of the court is fortunate. His argument before that court, in January, 1865, in support of the constitutionality of the soldiers' voting law, was pronounced by one of the most eminent lawyers of the State, as one of the ablest and most straightforward that had been made there in many years. It was highly complimented by those who heard it. His promptness and energy as Attorney-General prevented the payment, out of the State Treasury, of at least one large illegal claim, connived at by dishonest officials. It also prevented the revival of the old "wild-cat" Pontiac Bank; and the River Raisin and Lake Erie Railroad Company Bank; each having at the time three hundred thousand dollars or more of worthless "bank rags" ready to flood the North-west. He thus saved the people very heavy losses; and these instances alone would be enough to fully establish his reputation, as a public officer, for integrity and faithfulness. As Prosecuting Attorney of his county, he never needed assistance; and, as Attorney-General, he had as little help, in proportion to the business done, as any such officer in Michigan. As a public officer, he has never been charged with an oppressive or dishonorable act. In all his professional

labors, he is careful, industrious, and prompt. His papers are models of neatness, correctness, and order; he looks on all sides, and at every point of a case, and is seldom caught napping by an opponent. As a result, he is usually very successful, and his clients are well satisfied. Mr. Williams, in the society of his friends, is a genial and humorous companion, affable and kind beyond most men; but he is reserved and sometimes even cold in the presence of strangers. He has a fund of rich anecdotes, which he well knows how to relate, and a mind well stored with varied knowledge; he is pleasant, easy, and instructive in conversation. He has a warm and generous heart, and is a kind husband, tender parent, and true friend. He is not without his antipathies, which he cares little to conceal. He is a man of strong convictions, in which he puts great faith and hope, but which he seldom pushes forward, unless he deems it his duty. He weighs matters deliberately before action; but, when a conclusion is formed for practical purposes, he then moves with little respect to adverse consequences. This was forcibly illustrated in his breaking from the Democratic party in 1854, in the day of its power; and then again from the Republican party in 1870. His life evidences a devotion to principle, and disrespect for policy. Mr. Williams is a little above the medium height, with excellent deportment and presence. His eyes and hair are dark. As a speaker, he is fluent, earnest, and emphatic, but never boisterous. His diction is finished, and his subject clearly and logically presented; few speakers are more interesting and impressive. January 6, 1844, Mr. Williams married Miss Eliza Ann Patterson, a daughter of the late Captain James Patterson, of West Monroe, New York. She is a sister of the late Lucius Patterson, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, who, in his day, was one of Michigan's most eminent lawyers. Mrs. Williams is a lady of brilliant intellect, and varied and solid attainments; she is highly social; has many friends; and is an earnest and active Christian worker. Of this marriage, four children have been born,—two of whom, a daughter and son, died in early infancy; one in 1844 and the other in 1859. Their daughter Fannie was born May 13, 1852, and died March 31, 1873. She was an unusually sweet, vivacious, and popular young lady. Mrs. Ellen W. Babcock, of Ionia, now their only remaining child, was born December 1, 1846, and is a very intelligent and worthy lady. Mr. and Mrs. Babcock have but one child; Fannie W. Babcock, a bright little girl, born July 25, 1875. As to habits, Mr. Williams has ever been exemplary, and his character is above reproach. He has been a life-long temperance worker, and is a regular attendant upon Christian worship. Early in 1877, he became a professor of religion, and a member of the Congregational Church of Ionia. If possible, he is more earnest and resolute than ever before to make the world better and truer.

**W**HITE, THOMAS, of Portland, Michigan, was born in Covington, Genesee County, New York, June 4, 1808. He is the son of William and Ruth (Davis) White, who emigrated to Western New York from Pennsylvania and Connecticut. Mr. White remained at home, attending school and working on the farm, until he was eighteen years of age. He then took entire charge of the farm; and, on the death of his father, two years later, removed to Macomb County, Michigan, and located eighty acres of wild land. In 1834 he sold this land, and purchased one hundred and sixty acres in section four, in Ionia County, four miles south of the village of Portland. For nineteen years, he cultivated this place, and then bought four hundred and seventy-two acres two miles west, where he lived sixteen years. In 1869 he removed to the village of Portland, where he now resides, enjoying the fruits of his early labors. He cast his first vote for Andrew Jackson, and has been a strong supporter, first of the Whig, and afterwards of the Republican, party. He has been Superintendent of the Sunday-School, and has held important offices in the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he has been a member for thirty-five years. He married, November 2, 1834, Lucy, daughter of Sylvanus Young, one of the early settlers of the State of New York. They have three children, all comfortably settled in Portland, near their parents,—Adelia, wife of Harvey Knox; William, engaged in mercantile business; and Ruth, wife of W. Hugg, M. D.

**W**ITHEY, SOLOMON L., United States District Judge, Grand Rapids, Michigan, was born at St. Albans, Vermont, April 21, 1820. His father, Solomon Withey, known to the earlier residents of Michigan as General Withey,—having been commissioned a Brigadier-General of the Michigan State Militia,—was a native of Granville, Addison County, Vermont. About 1799 he moved to St. Alban's Point, where, for many years, he engaged in farming. In the spring of 1826 he removed thence to St. Alban's Bay, where most of Judge Withey's boyhood was spent. In September, 1835, he emigrated, with his family, to the West; spending the winter of 1835-6 at Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, and locating at Grand Rapids in the following spring. General Withey, while residing at St. Alban's Bay, was Under Sheriff of Franklin County, Vermont; and, afterwards, at Grand Rapids, was Sheriff of Kent County. He died in 1851, aged sixty-four years. Judge Withey's mother was Julia Granger, a native of Middlebury, Vermont. She was of English descent, and died in 1825; at the age of thirty-four years. His grandfather, Silas Withey, was a Scotchman, belonging to the family of McWithey, but

in early life dropped the Mc from the patronymic. He served during the war of the Revolution as a soldier in the American army, and drew a pension till his death in 1836. The wife of Silas Withey was Abigail Ferry, of Dutch descent. She died about 1828. Judge Withey spent the fall and winter of 1835 at Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, attending school. In the spring of 1836, he started, with his father, on his way to Grand Rapids; but, at Detroit, he accepted an offer of employment in a store in Canada. From this time, then sixteen years of age, Mr. Withey seems to have depended, to some extent, upon his own exertions for support and education. A year's time was spent as clerk in Canada, and in Ann Arbor, Michigan. This employment did not satisfy his ambition, nor accord with his taste for intellectual occupation. In the spring of 1837, after a conversation with his father, on the occasion of a visit to Grand Rapids, he resolved to prepare himself for intellectual life by a more complete course of study. With this object in view, he at once returned to Cuyahoga Falls and entered the academy there; but his stay was brief; for, in August, 1838, his father's business required his presence at Grand Rapids, and his academic instruction, but not his studies, terminated. A mind formed for high pursuits, and endowed with perseverance, seldom fails for want of personal instruction; books, when one has the capacity to understand and the judgment to utilize, are often the best teachers. The time which business left at his disposal was devoted to study; and, in the autumn of 1839, Mr. Withey entered the law office of Rathbone & Martin. He continued with that firm until its dissolution; and, afterwards, with Hon. George Martin,—subsequently Chief Justice. May 17, 1843, he was admitted to the bar, but remained with Judge Martin another year before entering upon practice. The study of the law did not deprive him of the pleasure and benefits derived from literary research, so that, when called to the bar, he brought to the practice of the law a mind well instructed in the principles of jurisprudence, and possessing the foundation of a literary education. He was engaged in active practice at the bar for nineteen years, at Grand Rapids, which has been his home since 1838. From the spring of 1844 to that of 1846, he was associated with Hon. John Ball, under the name of Ball & Withey; then Ball, Martin & Withey formed a copartnership which continued until the elevation of Judge Martin to the bench, where he continued till his death. Judge Withey was subsequently associated in business with Hon. E. S. Eggleston, and later with George Gray, Esq. His career at the bar was one of which he may be justly proud. The purity of his life, his high character as a man, his unimpassioned and cool judgment, united with perfect integrity and a thorough knowledge of the principles of law, entitled him to the unlimited confidence which was reposed in





C. L. Mithey





his opinion and advice. Noted as a safe and reliable counselor, no lawyer in the State drew around him a larger number of clients. He made his client's welfare and interests his own, and maintained his opinions at the bar with that sound reasoning which marks the efforts of all successful lawyers. While practicing at the bar and accumulating a competence, Judge Withey performed his full share of those public duties which, in this country, are imposed upon the citizen. He was Judge of Probate from 1848 to 1852, and State Senator from January 1861 to 1863; during which time two extra sessions of the Legislature were held to accomplish important legislation connected with the Rebellion. He was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1867, in which he was Chairman of the Judiciary Committee. He was also one of the eighteen gentlemen selected by the Governor of his State to form the Constitutional Commission of 1873, and was again Chairman of the Judiciary Committee. For many years he has been a Director of the First National Bank, of Grand Rapids, and, since 1869, its President. In the legislative bodies of which he has been a member, he at once took and held the first rank. That Judge Withey possesses, in an eminent degree, the qualities which go to make a useful and leading statesman can not be doubted; but his ambition has not led him to positions in which those qualities are exhibited in their full strength. He has been brought prominently before the public as a judge, and in this important civil office, more than in any other, his ability has been manifested. In the spring of 1863, he accepted, at the hands of President Lincoln, the office of United States District Judge for the Western District of Michigan; and immediately entered upon its duties. Previous to this time, Michigan constituted one Federal Judicial District, with its court at Detroit; this caused great inconvenience to the western half of the State, imposing burdens upon the citizens, and loss of both time and money to reach the courts and await trials. With confidence in the resources and future of his own section of Michigan, Judge Withey directed attention to dividing the State into eastern and western judicial districts; he had the satisfaction of seeing this project accomplished, and Grand Rapids made the judicial center of Western Michigan. When it became necessary to select from the bar a competent man to organize the court and discharge the responsible duties of Judge, he was unanimously chosen. This position demanded a radical change in his professional life. In the organization of the Circuit and District Courts, and the administration of the law, those qualities peculiar to him as a lawyer found room for more complete development, and his qualifications for a judge at once became apparent. A mild and pleasing, but resolute and intelligent, countenance; a decided manner, and a calm and dignified deportment, combine to make his courts models of propriety and decorum. He

listens to legitimate arguments with patience, and weighs carefully whatever is worthy of consideration. On the bench he expresses his mind freely upon questions under discussion, and directs attention to such points as may be in doubt, without wasting time upon points not fairly disputable. Well grounded in the elements of law, he is not easily drawn into what seems to him a misapplication of them, by the citation of cases, or the fallacies of legal argument. His instruction to juries, and his prepared opinions, are models of clearness and logic. Jurors rarely fail to understand their whole duty in the most intricate cases. All that belongs to them is submitted under careful instruction. He never invades the province of the jury; and, on the other hand, he never suffers the jury to usurp, in any degree, the province of the court. The Federal Courts in the Western District of Michigan, under his administration, have rapidly increased in the number and importance of their cases, and employ his entire time. He has been often called to preside in the Circuit and District Courts of the United States, at Detroit, Cleveland, and Memphis. In 1869, in order to relieve the Justices of the Supreme Courts of the United States of their duties at the Circuit, a law was passed by Congress creating an independent office of Circuit Judge. This appointment was tendered to Judge Withey, for the Sixth Circuit, composed of the four great commercial States,—Ohio, Michigan, Kentucky, and Tennessee. This office, while it assured an enlarged field for judicial service, and promised increased judicial honor, involved many sacrifices which, after careful consideration, he was unwilling to make,—especially as the duties imposed upon the office would call him from home the greater part of the time. Although he had received his commission from President Grant, such considerations, together with the growing importance of his own district, induced him to decline the additional honor. In 1845 Judge Withey married Marion L. Hinsdill, a daughter of Myron and Emily Hinsdill, formerly of Hinesburg, Vermont,—a lady of talent, character, and rare good sense. She is devoted to philanthropic objects, and aims at a large degree of culture for herself and her sex. Faithful in the discharge of duty and influential in the social circle, she does much to elevate and adorn life. Judge Withey, in 1848, united with the Congregational Church, and since that time has continued his membership. To the difficulties which have appeared in a new, increasing, and important church, he has freely devoted those abilities which elsewhere distinguish him. His influence has been positive; liberal yet conservative, independent yet conciliatory; elevating humanity by removing difficulties rather than creating them; conciliating and cementing into one homogeneous whole, rather than encouraging conflicting interests and opinions. His counsel has had the greater weight because never dogmatic nor obtrusive,

and because his advocacy of the best course has been animated by Christian love and warm human sympathies. By his timely and wise counsel he has greatly assisted the church of his choice. He has defended it in hours of great peril; has aided largely in its internal and external growth; and, by his example, has led others to respect that cause which he himself first respected. Thus has he been earnest and faithful in Christian duty.

WELLS, HON. W. B., of Ionia, Michigan, was born in Hartwick, Otsego County, New York, March 25, 1828. His father, Benjamin Wells, a native of Rhode Island, who settled in New York early in life, died near Fallasburg, Kent County, in December, 1861. His mother, a lady of unusual ability and force of character, was from Schoharie County, New York, and died June 13, 1838. From boyhood Mr. Wells has been distinguished by his insatiable thirst for knowledge. Not satisfied with the meager opportunities for education which the elementary schools of those days afforded, he determined to win his way to a broader field of culture. With this end in view, at the age of nineteen, he bought some land, for which he was to pay one hundred and ten dollars; and, in order to meet the obligation thus incurred, engaged to "grub out" thirty-five acres of land on Flat River, Kent County, Michigan, at three dollars and a half an acre. After six months of labor, he completed the task; having occupied the interval during the winter in chopping wood for a suit of clothes. He then set off to visit an uncle in Ontario, Canada, walking the whole distance of three hundred miles in eight days. After spending the winter with his uncle, he went to Yates County, New York, where he worked at harvesting the following summer. With his earnings, he then went to college, prosecuting his studies successively at Prattsburg and Lima, New York, and at Oberlin, Ohio. In 1853 he commenced reading law in the office of Blanchard & Bell, Ionia, Michigan; and, after four years of close application, during which he supported himself by teaching, he was admitted to the bar, and immediately began to practice. The offices with which Mr. Wells has been honored, during the twenty years of his professional career, form the best criterion of his legal ability. He has been County Clerk, Prosecuting Attorney, and, for eight years, Judge of Probate of Ionia County. In 1876 he was again elected Prosecuting Attorney, which office he now (1878) holds. In politics, Mr. Wells is an uncompromising Republican, and cast his first vote for John C. Fremont. While not avowedly associated with any religious body, he is thoroughly in sympathy with the objects of all Christian and benevolent societies. He has been a member of the Masonic Fraternity since 1854, and has passed through

the Blue Lodge and Chapter degrees, having held the office of Master in the Lodge and of King in the Chapter. Physically, Judge Wells is strong and robust. His mental vigor is well balanced by a sound constitution; his energy is untiring, and his perseverance of the most persistent type. When he chose the profession of law, he determined to master its spirit as well as its form; and his large practice bears ample testimony to his success. He is an earnest and forcible speaker, as well as a sound lawyer. In his positions of trust and honor, he has been faithful in the performance of every duty; always a champion of the right, and has reflected credit upon every office which he has held. An attractive conversationalist, his sympathetic nature and liberal views, his sincerity and candor, make him a favorite in Ionia County. He clings to old friends with tenacity, and is devoted to the welfare of his children. In May, 1858, he married Nancy Davis, of Otisco, Ionia County,—a lady of rare accomplishments,—who died a few months after her marriage, leaving a large circle of friends. Mr. Wells married, in October, 1861, Ellen A. Hatch, daughter of Samuel A. Hatch, of Chautauqua County, New York. She was a graduate of the seminary at Mount Holyoke, Massachusetts, and was a lady of remarkable ability and talents. She died August 23, 1874, leaving three children,—two boys and a girl. An obituary notice, which appeared in the *Ionia Sentinel*, will show the high appreciation in which she was held in the community: "Mrs. Wells was a lady of finished education and superior mind; well informed upon all the topics of the day. She was not wanting in the domestic virtues; 'she looked well to the ways of her household.' Industrious in her habits, economical and prudent, her management was marked by energy and indomitable perseverance. As a wife, 'the heart of her husband did safely trust in her.' She loved her children with a self-sacrificing devotion, and watched most carefully over their mental and moral development. She was always an attentive and kind neighbor; and the various public interests of the community, such as education, temperance, and the promotion of literary culture, were ever near to her heart."

WILLIAMS, HON. WILLIAM B., Attorney-at-law, Allegan, Michigan, was born in Pittsfield, New York, July 28, 1826. His father, Erastus Williams, was a native of Stockbridge, Massachusetts. He was a farmer; a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and a deacon in the Presbyterian Church. He brought up his son in habits of industry, and inspired him with his own political principles, which were those of the Whig party. William B. Williams was educated at the academy in his native town. He afterwards engaged in teaching school, in which, with farming during the





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W. O. Mills





summer, he was occupied for several years. He commenced the study of law in Rochester, New York; and graduated from the State and National Law School, at Ballston, in August, 1851. In September he was admitted to the bar in Rochester, where he formed a partnership with William Hastings, under whom he had commenced his legal studies. He has ever since continued the practice of his profession. In 1853 he married Miss Marietta Osborn, of Rochester, New York. In 1855 he removed to Michigan and settled in Allegan County, where he still resides. He was elected Judge of Probate in 1856, and re-elected in 1860. Upon the breaking out of the civil war, he entered the army. Having raised a company for the 5th Michigan Volunteer Cavalry, he was commissioned its Captain. He served until June 23, 1863, when he was discharged on account of disability, incurred at Fairfax Court House, Virginia. After his return home, although unfit for duty in the field, he raised the 28th Regiment of Michigan Volunteers, and was its commander while in camp at Kalamazoo. He was elected to the State Senate of Michigan in 1866 and 1868. During his last term, he was President *pro tempore*; Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, and of the Committee on Public Instruction. In 1867 he was a member of the Constitutional Convention of Michigan. In 1871 he was appointed, by the Governor of Michigan, a member of the Board for the Supervisory Control of the charitable, penal, and beneficiary institutions of the State. At a special election, held November 4, 1873, he was elected Representative to the Forty-third Congress, to fill a vacancy occasioned by the death of Hon. Wilder D. Foster. In the House of Representatives, he served on the Committee on the Pacific Railroad, and on the Committee on Revolutionary Pensions and Pensions of the War of 1812. In a speech on finance, he opposed the Currency Bill, which the President afterwards vetoed. Mr. Williams is a firm Republican. He is a member of the Episcopal Church, and has held the office of vestryman for several years. He still gives evidence of a long period of usefulness.

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**W**OLCOTT, LAURENS W., of Grand Rapids, Michigan, President of the Board of Education of that city, was born in Warsaw, Wyoming County, New York, February 8, 1843. His parents were Nelson and Alvina (Wright) Wolcott. His father was collaterally descended from the family of Wolcotts who were conspicuous in the early history of America. One of them, Roger Wolcott, was Colonial Governor of Connecticut; his son, Oliver Wolcott, was a statesman, General, and a signer of the Declaration of Independence. Laurens W. Wolcott was prepared for college at the age of seventeen, but was deterred, by ad-

verse circumstances, from applying for admission. When he had finally completed his freshman studies, the breaking out of the Rebellion caused him to change his purpose. In September, 1861, Mr. Wolcott, although very desirous to complete his collegiate course, determined to sacrifice his personal interests for his country, and enlisted, as a private, in the 52d Regiment of Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He served under General Grant, in the Army of the Tennessee; and under General Sherman, in his memorable march to the sea, and northward through the Carolinas. He was mustered out as First Lieutenant, at Louisville, Kentucky, in July, 1865; having been in the army nearly four years, and served during the hardest campaigns. Just after the close of the war, he taught school two years, studying law during his leisure hours. When he entered the law department of Michigan University, in 1868, he was so far advanced as to be able, virtually, to finish the course in one year. In 1869, he entered, as student, the law office of Hon. Byron D. Ball, since Attorney-General of Michigan; and, in 1871, having been admitted to the bar, became his partner. He remained in that connection till 1874, when he formed a partnership with Moses Taggart, Esq., with whom he is still associated. In 1872 Mr. Wolcott was elected Circuit Court Commissioner of the county of Kent, and was re-elected in 1874. He is now President of the Board of Education, and Secretary of the Bar Association of the city of Grand Rapids. Mr. Wolcott and his family are members of the Congregational Church. He is a member of the Republican party. He married, on the 5th of March, 1873, Miss Lucy Gallup, of Grand Rapids. He is of medium height, and graceful form; has finely chiseled features, hazel eyes, black hair, tinged with gray, and a heavy mustache; his face is prepossessing, and his manner agreeable. He is a lawyer of ability, industry, and promptitude. He presents a case clearly and handsomely; and, though not an orator, is a good advocate. He is a gentleman of fine social qualities, and is highly esteemed by his fellow-men. Mr. Wolcott, at the age of thirty-five, has, probably, just entered upon his career; it may reasonably be predicted that, if his life is spared, he will become pre-eminent in his profession.

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**W**ORMS, HENRY, Merchant and Capitalist, Grand Haven, Michigan, was born at Natchez, Mississippi, August 17, 1845. He was second of the three sons of John Worms, a retired merchant and financier, who was born of Jewish parents, at Landau, Bavaria, in 1802. Landau, at that time, belonged to France, and was a fortified city with a population of nine thousand. At the age of thirteen, John Worms



left home and walked to Paris, a distance of three hundred miles. He remained in Paris eleven years, following the occupation of shoe-making. When twenty-four years of age, he went to Havre, and from there sailed for the West Indies, where he spent some time on the islands of Martinique, Guadeloupe, Porto Rico, and Cuba. After remaining there three years, he visited Vera Cruz, La Puebla, and the City of Mexico. He then returned to Havana, Cuba, where he continued about five years. In 1835 he sailed from Havana for New Orleans; and, after one year, sailed for New York. After a year's residence there, he removed to Baltimore, and in a short time to Philadelphia, where he remained two years. Having a desire to return to his native city, he embarked on a sailing vessel, in the winter of 1839, for Havre. Having accumulated a small fortune, he was enabled to remain in France one year, when he again sailed for the United States. He arrived in New Orleans in the summer of 1841, and started a new enterprise,—that of trading among the Indians of Western Arkansas and Indian Territory. As the country, at that time, had few white settlers, it was a hazardous experiment; but he continued to trade during four years, meeting with great success. In 1845 he removed to Natchez, Mississippi, where he engaged in the clothing business until 1858. In that year he removed to Waterloo, New York. He married, in New Orleans, in 1842, and has seven children,—three sons and four daughters. Three of the latter are married, and reside in the city of New York. Mr. Worms is a member, in high standing, of the Masonic, Odd-Fellow, and Harugari Lodges. He is an inveterate smoker, and may always be seen with a cigar or pipe. He has invested about four hundred dollars in pipes, and takes great pride in his collection. He is hospitable and jovial, and is fond of good stories. He is now a resident of Chicago. He is seventy-five years of age, and as hale and hearty as a man of fifty. Henry Worms attended school from the time he was six until he was thirteen years of age. He then became clerk in his father's store. When twenty years old, he concluded to start in business for himself. He accordingly went to Titusville, Pennsylvania, and engaged in the clothing business, establishing branch stores at Shaffer Farm, Plumer, and Pithole City. He obtained credit for one hundred thousand dollars in this business, which he conducted successfully, making an honorable record. The oil excitement having subsided, he removed to Ypsilanti, Michigan, in the spring of 1867, where he met with business reverses. From Ypsilanti, he removed to Memphis, Tennessee, and engaged in the commission business, and in speculating. Not meeting with great success, however, he decided to return to Michigan. In the spring of 1871, he engaged in a new enterprise,—the traveling auction business, in which he was successful. He returned to the North in the spring of 1873, and

settled in Grand Haven, Michigan. There he opened a large retail clothing store, in conducting which he is very successful. He may well be termed one of the self-made men of the times.

WOODRUFF, DR. ELMER, of Grand Rapids, son of Marts and Susan (Belden) Woodruff, was born in Farmington, Connecticut, February 22, 1816. While he was yet a child, his parents removed to Cortland County, New York, and settled on a farm. Remaining there during his childhood, he had no other educational advantages than those afforded by the district school. At the age of seventeen, he became an apprentice in the shop of a cabinet-maker, in the village of Homer, Cortland County. In 1836 he removed to Michigan, and worked at his trade in Homer, Calhoun County, and at Union City, on the St. Joseph River. Afterwards he removed to Albion, and carried on the cabinet business until 1857. In December, 1851, he set out for California, taking passage in a steamer at New York; but a distressing accident occurred on the way, compelling his return. As the vessel neared the Isthmus, some of the passengers began firing at the sea-birds; one of the guns was accidentally discharged, the ball passing through Mr. Woodruff's left lung and coming out at the back. The blood poured from this terrible wound until life was nearly extinct. The only hope was to send him back in the same steamer to New York, and place him under the most skillful surgeons. This done, he was, after months of suffering, fully restored. His case excited such interest among the medical profession of New York, that a *fac-simile* of the wounded lung was made, and is still preserved in the Anatomical Museum in that city. In 1857 Mr. Woodruff turned his attention to the study of medicine; and, two years afterwards, became a practitioner in Decatur, Van Buren County. In 1861 he removed to Grand Rapids, where he has since been in successful practice as a botanic physician. On the 30th of May, 1868, he helped to organize "The First Society of Spiritualists," and was elected Secretary, which office he still holds. Since the year 1852, Dr. Woodruff, like Swedenborg, Davis, and others, has been made an instrument for the manifestations of certain mental phenomena;—whether these are solely the result of the operation of unknown laws, or caused, as many claim, by spirit intelligences, should not here be discussed. These phenomena are termed clairvoyance, clairaudience, and impressional communion. In these "superior conditions," he claims to commune with exalted spiritual beings, and to have had glorious prophetic visions. One of these revelations he once published in a pamphlet, which elicited correspondence from various parts of the United States. Its truth or



falsity will be determined on the 26th of January, 1889. He is now writing a medical treatise, and a work on the origin of planets, entitled "God in Nature, or the Keys of the Kingdoms." Dr. Woodruff has little knowledge of books, and attributes all his important work to the aid of departed spirits. From 1859 to 1861, spiritually directed and sustained, as he believes, he lectured and held public discussions on "Spiritualism and the Bible," through Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, and Missouri. Under the same influence, he has ever since diagnosed disease, and made and prescribed remedies. He has a fondness for mineralogical and other specimens, and has collected a choice cabinet. Dr. Woodruff married, July 3, 1837, Miss Eleanor Burt. They have four children,—one son and three daughters. Dr. Woodruff is tall and well proportioned. He has a kindly face and high head, which indicate the dominant traits of his character, namely, benevolence and spirituality. The latter has already been shown; the former is illustrated by his many acts of charity. He is generous almost to a fault. He never sued, and seldom presses for payment. Dr. Woodruff's religious or philosophical opinions meet with less opposition than formerly; and, as if in fulfillment of his own predictions, his life flows smoothly on towards the calmly anticipated change.

**W**ORMS, JULIUS, Merchant, of Grand Haven, Michigan, is the youngest son of John Worms. He was born in Natchez, Mississippi, March 30, 1847. His parents removed to Waterloo, Seneca County, New York, when he was eleven years of age; and he attended school there until he was fifteen. He then became clerk in his father's store, where he remained until the oil excitement, in 1865. At that time, with his brother, Henry, he established a store at Titusville, Pennsylvania. Meeting with success, they established branches at Shaffer Farm, on Oil Creek, and Plumer, on Cherry Run. They also opened the first clothing store in Pithole City; this place was then prosperous, but has since become uninhabited, the oil fever having subsided. In 1866 Mr. Worms went to Ypsilanti, Michigan, where he again engaged in business with his brother. In 1868 he purchased the entire interest, and moved to Lafayette, Indiana, where he remained but a few months. Here he sold out to good advantage, and, in 1869, moved to Memphis, Tennessee, where he engaged, with his brother, in the sale of produce, hides, and furs. He traveled all through the Southern States, extending his trips to the Rio Grande, and going once as far as the City of Mexico. The partnership was dissolved in 1871; but Mr. Julius Worms remained in Memphis until the early part of 1872, when he returned to Michigan. In 1873 he re-

moved to Grand Haven, where he has since been engaged in mercantile business. He is now considered the most solid merchant in that enterprising city. He purchases all goods for cash, and has met with the most flattering success. In the spring of 1877, he purchased, in Chicago, Illinois, a large bankrupt stock, which he removed to Muskegon, Michigan; and, in the short period of seventy days, disposed of the whole, at an immense profit. Mr. Worms is well acquainted with nearly all parts of the Union. There is no State he has not visited, and his geographical information is very extensive. He receives newspapers from all parts of the country. His habits are unexceptionable; he has never used stimulants, nor tobacco in any form. He is a member of the Masonic Fraternity. He is cautious, determined, and shrewd. His brother never undertakes any enterprise without consulting him; and, when they plan together, they scarcely know the word fail. It is seldom that two brothers are so warmly attached to each other. Julius Worms is only thirty-one years of age, and has bright prospects before him. He is unmarried. He is liberal, and always ready to help the unfortunate.

**W**ELLS, MORRIS B., late of Ionia, was born February 3, 1834, in Hartwick, Otsego County, New York. Two years later his parents removed to Paris, Ontario, where, after the death of his mother, June 13, 1838, he lived with his uncle nearly six years. In 1843 his father, taking his son with him, emigrated to Michigan, and settled near Fallasburg, Kent County. Morris Wells early showed great aptitude in learning and fondness for study. He attended the county schools with scrupulous regularity; after which he was engaged some time as teacher at Kiddville, Ionia County. He also taught a school at Smyrna. In 1855 he went to Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio; and, in 1856, to Antioch College, Yellow Springs, Ohio, which at that time ranked among the leading universities in the country. While in these colleges, he devoted a great portion of his time to the study of the natural sciences, in which he became well versed. He took special delight in the study of botany; and became a fine Latin, German, and French scholar. Being dependent upon his own exertions, he worked early and late to obtain the means of remaining in college. His graduations were attended with enviable testimonials of scholarship and ability. In 1857 he removed to Ionia, and remained in the law office of his brother two years. He was then, after a very creditable examination, admitted to the bar. His studious habits and thirst for knowledge led him to enter Michigan University as a member of the first law class. Afterwards, returning to Ionia, he formed a co-partnership with his brother, which continued until he

entered the army. He was full of hope and ambition, and had a constantly increasing practice. In the fall of 1860, he was elected Circuit Court Commissioner for Ionia County. In the spring of 1861, shortly after the firing upon Fort Sumter, he resigned his official position, and enlisted in Company B, of the 16th Michigan Regiment. He was appointed Second Lieutenant of the company, which was ordered to join the Army of the Potomac, and was for a time quartered near Yorktown, Virginia. Lieutenant Wells was put on recruiting service, and returned to Ionia, where he did efficient work in organizing the 21st Regiment, of which he was made Adjutant. He bore a conspicuous part in all the engagements in which his regiment participated. During the series of contests at Stone River, he received a slight wound in the shoulder. Shortly after, for meritorious conduct, he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. During the terrible onset made by General Bragg to win back the stronghold of Chattanooga from the Union forces, under Rosecrans and Thomas, Colonel Wells, it is supposed, was among the first to fall. Judge Wells, upon receiving the news of his brother's death, immediately set out for the battle-field, in the hope of obtaining his body; but his efforts were unsuccessful, as the rebel forces had possession of the ground. Hopes were entertained that he had been taken prisoner, and would eventually return; but these were dispelled upon the liberation of all prisoners at the close of the war. The recent discovery of his grave has removed all doubts. Colonel Wells had one brother, W. B. Wells, of Ionia, and one sister, Elizabeth Trumble, who lives in the township of Grattan, Kent County, Michigan. In the various stations of life to which he was called, Morris B. Wells was faithful, and successful in the discharge of every duty. He was mild and forbearing in disposition, and always courteous and affable. He was a fluent and forcible speaker and writer, expressing strength, candor, and breadth of thought. His impartiality as a military commander gained the esteem of his fellow-officers, and the admiration of his men. He relinquished the most flattering prospects of becoming a distinguished member of the bar to risk his life for his country. Colonel Wells was a man whose character, whether as a brave soldier or an unpretending lawyer, is well worthy the emulation. Since the nation has appropriated a day for strewing with flowers the Northern graves of its brave defenders, it is well that we turn for a moment to their unknown, though not unthought-of, Southern graves.

"Cover the thousands who sleep far away,—  
Sleep where their friends can not find them to-day;  
They who, in mountain, and hill-side, and dell,  
Rest where they wearied, and lie where they fell.  
Softly the grass blade creeps 'round their repose;  
Sweetly, above them, the wild flow'ret blows;  
Zephyrs of Freedom fly gently o'erhead,  
Whispering names for the patriot dead."

**Y**OUNG, GEORGE, of Grand Rapids, was born in Schoharie, Schoharie County, New York, May 29, 1799. His ancestors, among the first emigrants from the Netherlands to America, settled on the Hudson River. His father, Elias Young, was one of the pioneers in Schoharie County. Soon after the death of his mother, he went to Albany with his father. While in that city, Mr. Young became acquainted with Mr. D. B. Slingerland, a wholesale dry-goods and grocery merchant, who prevailed upon him to leave his son as an apprentice in the business. The boy had early manifested a desire to become a merchant, and was much pleased with this offer. He was then but eight years of age, and was bound to remain an apprentice until he was eighteen; when he was to be employed as a clerk on a fair salary, his time and money to be his own. He had learned the multiplication table, and had studied German six months. He had also spent the same amount of time on English, but could speak it very imperfectly, as the language of Holland had been used exclusively in his home. It is still spoken by the remaining members of the family. George Young served his time with Mr. Slingerland in such a manner as to give entire satisfaction. He spent his leisure in study, and became master of the German, Holland, and English languages. He obtained a complete knowledge of the business in which he was engaged; and, when his term of apprenticeship expired, was able to command a large salary. When he was twenty-one years of age, with the assistance of his uncle, he became the equal partner of his employer, with whom he remained until, on account of age and infirmity, Mr. Slingerland retired. Their trade was large and profitable, extending over the principal part of the counties of Schoharie, Montgomery, Otsego, Herkimer, Saratoga, and Chenango. Soon after his partner retired, Mr. Young employed as clerk Abraham Ehle, a young German, who had a fair knowledge of mercantile business. In a short time, Mr. Ehle's father, who was a man of some means and influence, aided him in purchasing an interest in the business; and a partnership was formed under the name of Young & Ehle. The firm carried on a profitable business on State street, opposite the Albany City Bank, until 1830, when Mr. Ehle, on account of ill health, desired to retire. They had acquired sufficient capital to make them independent; and, having established a good business, were able to sell their stock for its full value. Mr. Young then moved onto a fine farm of one hundred and eighty acres, lying between the villages of Ovid and Lodi. May 10, 1832, he began work on his farm, feeling great relief at being able to lay aside the care and anxiety of mercantile life. Active and prosperous as a merchant, he was equally so as a farmer. In 1836, having been offered a good price for his farm, he sold it, and started for the West. He traveled the







Engraved by W. L. G. 1860 NY

*Sanford A. Fromm*



whole distance from Ovid, New York, to Grand Rapids, Michigan, on horseback, in the month of December. He selected one hundred and fifty acres of land on the lake, two and one-half miles west of Grand Rapids; and, ten miles east of that village, one hundred and forty acres on the Thornapple River. In May, 1837, he sent his family to Utica, New York, while he accompanied his hired man, with nine head of Durham cattle, two yoke of oxen, and a wagon, to his Western farm. In the month of August, they were all settled in their new home. From the time of their arrival until 1846, the growth of Western Michigan was comparatively slow. The portion between Grand River and Lake Michigan, with the exception of a few small settlements, was almost entirely a wilderness. About that time, Mr. Young was informed that a colony of nearly seven thousand Hollanders was coming to this country, and that its leader, Rev. Albertus C. Van Raalte, was to visit Grand Rapids with a view of looking for a location between that place and Lake Michigan. They desired to settle on a stream running into the lake, that they might have a harbor for their vessels and water communication with other places. As an effort was being made to induce them to go to Wisconsin or Iowa, Mr. Young was requested to obtain an interview with Rev. A. C. Van Raalte, and show him that it was for the interest of the colony to settle on Black River, in Ottawa County, Michigan. Meeting the gentleman at the Rathbun House, in the company of Hon. J. R. Kellogg, of Allegan, Mr. Young introduced himself in the Holland language. Finding a man with whom he could converse in his own tongue, a member of the church of which he was himself a minister, whose only motives in persuading were the growth of the country and the prosperity of the colony, was a great satisfaction to Mr. Van Raalte. He talked freely with both Mr. Young and Mr. Kellogg, and decided that the best location was on Black Lake and River, in Ottawa County. The colonists accordingly made a settlement there, of which Michigan may well be proud. They found the country well adapted to their wants, and prospered in every way. As Mr. Young was familiar with the mercantile business and the language of the people, many of his friends desired him to open a store in the place. This he did not wish to do, but offered his assistance in purchasing. Mr. B. Groetenhins was selected; and, in company with Mr. Young, bought in New York the first stock of goods. Most of the supplies for the colony were furnished by Grand Rapids; the surplus grain received a natural market; and the whole country was benefited by the reviving trade. Many of the Hollanders bought farms in the vicinity of Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, and Allegan, but most of them remained in the colony. Its success attracted Rev. Cornelius Vander Meulin, who, with another large col-

ony, settled in what is now known as the town of Zeeland, situated between Grand Rapids and the Holland Colony. Emigration from Holland continued for many years, and has not yet entirely ceased. The first church was organized by Mr. Young and a few members of the Presbyterian Church long before the arrival of the emigrants. The society struggled for many years; and, being without a minister on the coming of Rev. Van Raalte, gave to him the use of the church building.

**Y**EOMANS, HON. SANFORD A., Ionia, Michigan, was born in the town of German Flats, Herkimer County, New York, November 16, 1816. He is the eldest of nine children, and received his education in the public schools of his birthplace. At the age of seventeen, he joined, with his parents, the colony which first settled in the Grand River Valley. He remained with them until he was twenty-four, sharing in all the hardships of pioneer life. At that time he took forty acres of land for himself, which, by industry and economy, has been steadily enlarged, until it is now nearly a section in size, and joins the corporate limits of the city of Ionia on the north-west. In January, 1840, he married Abigail Thompson, a daughter of Mr. Levi Thompson, of Pownal, Bennington County, Vermont. She had come to Michigan with her uncle, Dexter Arnold, and his family, who settled in Ionia County. By this union four children were born to him, three of whom, two sons and one daughter, are still living. Shortly after the birth of the fourth child, his wife died. In November, 1848, he married Marietta A., daughter of the late Chauncey M. Stebbins. Mrs. Yeomans is still living, the happy mother of three children. Mr. Yeomans has ever been an industrious, energetic man, of powerful will, and richly endowed with that mental quality more to be desired than genius,—common sense. Few of the earlier settlers of the Grand River country have had greater success. From a small beginning, there has been, in his case, steady and uninterrupted progression in all the material interests in which he has engaged. Each year of energetic effort has secured its legitimate reward, and his labors in the acquirement of wealth and prosperity have been uniformly successful. His fellow-citizens have shown their confidence in him by successively electing him to many positions of trust and responsibility in his town and county. In 1859 he was appointed one of the Commissioners to lay the Ionia, Houghton and Mackinaw State Road. In 1867 he was a member of the State Convention to revise the Constitution of Michigan. In 1876 he was elected to the State Legislature from the district in which he has resided for nearly half a century. He is a prominent stockholder and

Director of the First National Bank of Ionia. In this, as in other business relations, he has won the respect and confidence of the community. He is now in the prime of life and strength, and may confidently look forward to many years of service and usefulness. Hon. Erastus Yeomans, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Lebanon, Connecticut, August 11, 1791. At the age of sixteen, he removed, with his parents, to German Flats, Herkimer County, New York. The ensuing year he engaged as teacher in one of the public schools of the county. Evidence of his efficiency in this capacity at the early age of seventeen, is given in the fact that he continued in the same school for nearly three years, with an advance of salary each year. Soon after this, in the War of 1812, he demonstrated his fitness to be a citizen of the Republic by taking his place in the ranks of her defenders. March 19, 1815, he married Phoebe Arnold, of Fairfield, New York. His parents being advanced in years, their care devolved upon himself and wife; and the duty was conscientiously discharged. Discerning that the future of his young family would be improved in the West, he emigrated, with five other families, to the then Territory of Michigan. The magnitude of such an undertaking can, at this time, hardly be estimated. The party, having chartered a canal-boat, put on board all their goods, and embarked for the West, April 20, 1823, arriving at Buffalo on the 7th of May. Here the heavy household goods and farming implements were shipped by sailing-vessel to Grand Haven, and the party went by steamer to Detroit. After the necessary preparations for a trip across the Territory, the company started, passing through Pontiac and other settlements in their course. On the eighth day out, they took a guide, to lead them through the wilderness, in which they had to cut their way slowly and painfully. When about thirty miles from their destination, they were detained by an event distressing and mournful in character,—the sickness, death, and burial of a child of one of the families. Resuming their march, they reached the present site of Ionia City on the 28th of May. The purchase from the Indians of little patches of clearing, with crops of corn and vegetables planted, having been effected, the party exchanged their tents for bark wigwams. The Indians, well satisfied with the bargain, moved on a few miles, to be ready for a similar transaction with the next new-comers. A number of the most able-bodied colonists were now sent to convey to their settlement, on flat-bottomed boats, propelled by poles and strong arms, the goods which had been landed at Grand Haven. This accomplished, the erection of more suitable dwellings was begun. Not the least of the discomforts endured by them at this time were the mosquitoes. An empty wine pipe, in which articles had been packed, placed with the open end toward a smudge, afforded to Mr. Yeomans a secure retreat, and an oppor-

tunity for much-needed slumber. The season being so far advanced, only the corn and vegetables purchased of the Indians could, for that year, be grown. They had made no provision for grinding the corn, and, consequently, had to prepare it for food in the Indian fashion. The large stumps of trees, yet firmly fixed in the ground, were hollowed into mortars, in which the corn was crushed, until, by obtaining a large coffee-mill, it could be coarsely ground. This source of supply served to bridge over the times of sharp necessity caused by scarcity of breadstuff, which could be obtained only from Detroit, by the way of Grand Haven. In 1835 a run of small millstones was procured, and put in the basement of the saw-mill which had been erected. With the official organization and administration of the affairs of his county and town, Mr. Erastus Yeomans was closely identified. He was appointed first Postmaster of Ionia County, which position he held for six years. In 1841 he was elected Associate Judge of the county, continuing to serve in that capacity for eight years. He has always been active in advancing the best interests of humanity, and of the community. He is the only surviving one of the five pioneers who, with their families, constituted the colony; and now, in his eighty-seventh year, the representative of four generations, he is, physically and mentally, younger than many men at seventy. Without departure from truth, it may be said of him, that "the silvery radiance cast athwart his locks by the sunset of life" is not dimmed by a single charge of wrong to his fellow-men. Justice requires more than the simple allusion to the wife and mother made in foregoing lines. She was born in Smithfield, Rhode Island, March 18, 1797. At an early age, she removed, with her parents, to Fairfield, Herkimer County, New York. Possessing, to an eminent degree, soundness of judgment and mental force, she stood by her husband, "staying up his hands," and bearing nobly her burdens and hardships as a "pioneer mother." One incident may be mentioned as illustrative of her character. The delusion of Millerism, which swept over the land, found many believers among her neighbors and friends. Even the church of which herself and husband had been almost lifelong members did not escape,—the pastor himself becoming a convert. In one of the last meetings before the direful day, her intense convictions overcame a naturally retiring disposition; and, rising in her place, she denounced the whole thing as a sham and a delusion, disgraceful alike to a Christian profession or common intelligence. On the conclusion of her remarks, the meeting was closed; no one feeling able to escape the force of her denunciation. Her life exemplified the qualities of a true wife and mother, so eloquently delineated by Solomon. The "rest that remains for the people of God" has been hers for many years; but her memory is treasured as a rich heritage by her friends and descendants.







R. E. E. Butterworth

Engr. by H. H. Hall 3 Barclay St NY



**B**UTTERWORTH, RICHARD EDWARD EMERSON, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, was born in 1806, at Port Antonio, on the island of Jamaica, British West Indies. His father, a Captain in the British army, was the commandant of Fort George. Mr. Butterworth was taken to England while yet a child, and was there educated in school and college until he had attained his twentieth year. He was then thrown upon his own resources; and, choosing the business of a civil engineer, he placed himself with Mr. William Nicholson, who was engaged in that profession at Manchester. At this period, the education and elevation of the operative classes of Great Britain began to engage the attention of Lord Brougham and other British statesmen; *Chamber's Journal*, *Chamber's Information for the People*, and *The Penny Magazine*, were supplying to the masses good and instructive reading matter, at prices within their means. One of the first "Mechanics' Institutes" was at this time opened in Manchester; and Mr. Nicholson was solicited to deliver the opening course of scientific lectures. Under his direction, Mr. Butterworth drafted all the diagrams necessary to illustrate this course of lectures, and also became a teacher of mechanical drawing to a class of nearly one hundred working men, chiefly mechanics and engineers. Among the first promoters and directors of this institute were Mr., afterwards Sir William Fairbairn, and Mr. Benjamin Whitworth, whose reputation as civil engineers subsequently became world-wide. This institute was instrumental in winning for its students that high degree of mechanical knowledge and skill for which Manchester and her various manufactures have since become widely known. Mr. Butterworth recalls the construction, in 1830, of George Stephenson's locomotive, the "Rocket;" and was among the first who rode upon it on its trial trip across Chat Moss, on the line of the Liverpool and Manchester Railway. On this trip, the "Rocket" rushed over the road at the rate of sixty miles an hour,—a speed which has never since been exceeded by any locomotive. For several years, Mr. Butterworth was engaged at Manchester in the manufacture of cotton; but his attention had been directed toward the United States, more especially toward the Territory of Michigan, by a series of articles published in *Chamber's Information for the People*. He therefore decided to emigrate to Michigan, and make it his home. Leaving Liverpool on the steamship "Great Western," he arrived at New York, in May, 1842, and at the village of Grand Rapids in June the following year. The village, at that date, had been settled but ten years. The land had been purchased in 1832 by Louis Campan, an Indian trader, from the United States Government; and, a few years subsequently, the northern part of it had been by him sold to Lucius Lyon, the Surveyor-General of the Northwest Territory. When Mr. Butterworth arrived

at Grand Rapids, it contained but a few hundred inhabitants. No bridges spanned the river; Indian trails formed the only roads; traffic in furs and shingles was the only trade; the land did not produce food enough for the inhabitants, and the greater part of their supplies had to be brought, during the winter months, from the country south. Having examined the location, Mr. Butterworth purchased a tract of land on the west bank of the river, about two miles below the village. In the course of the year, he fenced and partly cleared a hundred acres, and sowed forty acres of wheat. The following winter was an uncommonly severe one; the snow commenced falling in the middle of November, and lay on the ground until the following May. The supply of food for man and beast was totally inadequate. Teams were dispatched south for grain, pork, and straw, taking land plaster and shingles to pay for the articles required; but, despite the utmost exertion of their owners, large numbers of cattle perished for want of food and shelter. The present generation have but little conception of the sufferings and privations of those who preceded them in the valley of the Grand River, as well as elsewhere in Michigan. Between Mr. Butterworth's land and the village of Grand Rapids was a village, or settlement, of Ottawa Indians. They had been converted to the Christian faith, and were in charge of a Hungarian missionary, named Vizoiski. In his little chapel, this worthy man preached every Sunday four times, in as many languages,—English, French, German, and Indian. In October of each year, the Michigan Indians in charge of the Government assembled at Grand Rapids to receive the annual payment that the Government had agreed to make for the surrender of their rights in the lands north of Grand River. These occasions were lively and exciting; the Indians brought their squaws and children; some rode on ponies, while others came in large bark canoes, bringing maple sugar, mats, embroidered moccasins, and gloves, which they readily traded for articles they required of the white settlers. The coin paid by the Government was the object of earnest attention. It was almost immediately expended by the Indians in purchasing what they required of the settlers, and actually constituted all the money that was seen from year to year in the settlement. From 1842 to 1850, Mr. Butterworth engaged in the cultivation of his land; he surmounted many difficulties, but his hard work brought small profits. The California fever reached Grand Rapids, and he seriously considered the propriety of selling his land and going westward. About that time, he also seriously considered the propriety of making a geological survey of his land. Plaster, or gypsum, strata were worked on the east side of the river, nearly opposite his land, and his investigation proved that large and valuable beds of gypsum underlay a great portion of his property. Having made

this discovery, he gave up all idea of going to California. He proceeded immediately, with such help as he could hire, to quarry the rock, and erect a mill, with machinery to grind it for land plaster. This was the first discovery of plaster rock on the north-western bank of the Grand River. Mr. Butterworth continued the operation of his mill until 1856, when he sold the land and works to a Boston company for thirty-five thousand dollars. The company has since expended large sums, with great success, quarrying and manufacturing both land and stucco plaster. Having thus disposed of his property, Mr. Butterworth removed to the city of Grand Rapids, on the east side of the Grand River, and purchased the Grand Rapids Iron Works. Here, for twenty years, he has been engaged in the business of iron founder and machinist, and has given employment to a large number of men. In 1857 he built the propeller, "Mary Ann Ryerson," and completed her as a steam-tug, with all the necessary engines and machinery. Having been induced to believe that salt might be obtained under his land in the city, he sunk an artesian well five hundred feet in depth, and reached salt water. On trial, it proved to be of insufficient strength for profitable manufacture, and, although he joined others in boring wells in the neighborhood, he finally abandoned the work. In 1861, when the coal oil fever was raging, Mr. Butterworth took men and machinery to the Alleghany River, in Pennsylvania; and there, on the locality called Panther Run, sunk two wells. In 1862 he erected a refinery near his foundry in Grand Rapids, and there refined the crude oil, with very handsome returns. In 1870 mineral springs, possessing health-giving and curative properties, having been discovered in various parts of Michigan, Mr. Butterworth decided to bore an artesian well, with a view to striking a stream of mineral water. This he did, and reached a stream possessed of valuable magnetic and medicinal properties. He at once fitted up a commodious bathing establishment, which was attended, for two years, with success. However, the water was so highly charged with chemical properties that it consumed the iron piping of the well; the magnetic water, as it arose to the surface, mixed with other waters occupying a higher level, and thus became adulterated and impure; and the establishment had to be abandoned, though the stream still continues to pour forth its waters in abundance. Another large operation completed by Mr. Butterworth in 1875 was the pumping engines and machinery of the Grand Rapids city water-works. This is believed to be the largest work of this character ever erected in the State, west of Detroit. Many other large and excellent engines in use in the city have been built at his shops. He has also erected, on his land in the city, several brick buildings for mills and stores. In 1827 Mr. Butterworth married Miss Ann Butterworth, of Manchester, England. They have two

daughters, both married, and living in Grand Rapids. In 1872 he suffered the loss of his faithful wife, his companion forty-five years. Since then, he has engaged freely in foreign travel, having visited Europe three times. He has traveled through Egypt, Palestine, Turkey, and Greece, and has visited the various cities and points of interest on the European continent. As mentioned in the early part of this sketch, Mr. Butterworth, before reaching manhood, attained a classical education; during his subsequent life, he has gained a fund of scientific and general knowledge. Having been afflicted with deafness, owing to the accidental fall of a great shower of water on his head, he has been, in some degree, shut out from the enjoyment of social intercourse, and has learned to depend much upon reading. Endowed with a good memory, he has, by constant use, improved this faculty, and now, at the age of seventy-one years, its retention is remarkable. His store of information, acquired by reading and travel, is ever at the service of his friends; while his mind, in consequence of his temperate life and vigorous physique, is possessed of as much energy as that of many healthy persons twenty years his junior. His eyes, bright and clear, take cognizance of everything within their range, and largely supply his defective hearing. The latter defect is somewhat overcome by the use of an ear-trumpet. His well-known figure, tall and energetic as that of a very much younger man, may be daily seen on the way from his residence to his iron works. He attracts the notice of strangers as a gentleman of uncommon activity and distinguished appearance. One can not, like the writer, have enjoyed a series of interviews with Mr. Butterworth without being struck by the singular grace and modesty of his bearing. In his travels he has collected many curiosities in Egypt and Palestine, together with a large collection of French photographs, embracing views of ancient structures and sculpture. He has neglected nothing which might serve as a souvenir of his various travels, and freely exhibits and explains these treasures to those who manifest intelligent interest. A member of the Protestant Episcopal Church, Mr. Butterworth is liberal in his support of every moral and Christian organization. His reputation as an upright gentleman is duly recognized by his fellow-citizens, with whom he has spent the last thirty years of his life.

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**F**ERRY, HON. THOMAS W., of Grand Haven, United States Senator, and, from 1875 to March 4, 1877, President of the United States Senate and acting Vice-President of the United States, was born at Mackinac, Michigan, June 1, 1827. He is a son of the late Rev. William M. Ferry, a native of Massachusetts, who graduated at Union College in 1817,





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*Sincerely Yours,*

*D. W. Ferry*





and, after completing his theological course, in 1821, went as a missionary of the Presbyterian Church to Mackinac, Michigan. There, in connection with his ministerial labors, he established a school for white and Indian children. After twelve years of unremitting toil, his health failing, he removed to the western coast of Michigan, and, with others, founded what is now the city of Grand Haven. At his death, which occurred December 30, 1867, he left generous bequests for benevolent objects. Thomas W. Ferry was but six years old when he removed with his parents to the wild home at Grand Haven, to experience the hardships and adversities of pioneer life. He received a common-school education, and was bred to business pursuits. With the exception of two years spent as clerk in a store in Illinois, he remained a co-laborer with his father until the latter's death, in 1867. In partnership with his brother, E. P. Ferry, he has since continued the lumber business, which, under his general management, has been prosecuted with energy and success. He early manifested an interest in public matters; and, at the age of twenty-one years, was chosen County Clerk of Ottawa County. Two years later, in 1850, he was elected a Representative to the Michigan Legislature, to serve a term of two years. In 1856 he was elected State Senator for two years. For eight years, he was an active member of the Republican State Committee. He was a delegate-at-large and one of the Vice-Presidents of the National Republican Convention at Chicago in 1860, which nominated Abraham Lincoln. In 1863 he was appointed Commissioner for Michigan of the Soldiers' National Cemetery at Gettysburg. In 1864 he was elected a Representative to the Thirty-ninth Congress, and was re-elected, successively, to the Fortieth, Forty-first, and Forty-second Congresses, serving upon some of the most important committees. In January, 1871, after an exciting contest, he was elected United States Senator for a term of six years. He consequently surrendered his place in the House of Representatives of the Forty-second Congress, and took his seat in the Senate, March 4, 1871. His services of six years in the House, and the legislative experience there obtained, were recognized when he entered the Senate; he was chosen Chairman of the Committee on the Revision of Rules; afterwards, was repeatedly elected President, *pro tempore*, of the Senate; and, by virtue of this office,

upon the death of Vice-President Wilson, became acting Vice-President of the United States. He was President of the joint meeting of the two Houses of Congress during the intensely exciting count of the electoral votes, resulting in the choice of President Hayes and Vice-President Wheeler. In this position he acquitted himself with such impartiality and ability that he was re-elected, March 4, 1877, by a unanimous vote, President, *pro tempore*, of the Senate. In January, 1877, he was re-elected United States Senator to serve for the term of six years. In early life, he acted with the Whigs, but joined the Republican party as soon as it was organized, and at once became a zealous advocate of its principles. In every Presidential campaign since 1860, he has canvassed the State in behalf of the Republican candidate. As a public speaker, his power lies in his earnest language, concise statements, and sound logic, without any attempt at eloquence or oratorical display. His course in Congress has met with the general approbation of people of all parties in Michigan. He has done much to advance the interests of his native State. To his efforts Michigan is greatly indebted for the generous river and harbor improvements which have so materially aided in developing her resources, and in preserving the lives and property of her citizens. It was through his influence, also, that the beautiful island of Mackinac, or as much of it as belongs to the United States, has been converted into a national park. He has also labored zealously in the cause of the soldiers and sailors of Michigan, who participated in the late civil war. His speeches on finance have been widely read, and are highly valued. He has done much to perfect the postal system; and his work on the Committee on Post-offices and Post-roads has elicited the highest praise from the press throughout the country. He is now President, *pro tempore*, of the Senate, and is presiding in the absence of Vice-President Wheeler. He is also Chairman of the Committee on Post-offices and Post-roads, and a member of the Committee on Finance, and that on Rules. The present rules of the United States Senate, adopted by that body under his revision and report, are a standing tribute to his ability as a parliamentarian. To promote the general welfare has been the aim of his Congressional life. An indefatigable worker, courteous and upright, his career reflects honor alike upon his State and country.























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